5 AUG 1957

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

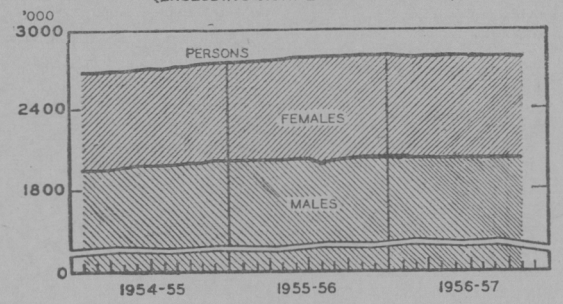
MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

MAY, 1957.

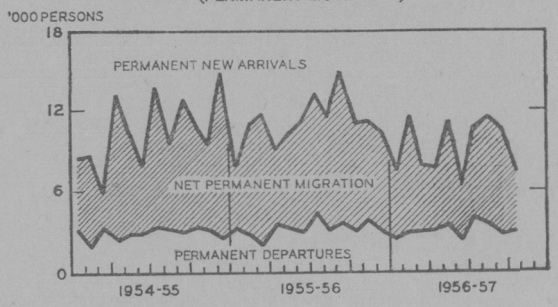
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PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE TREASURER
BY
S. R. CARVER,
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

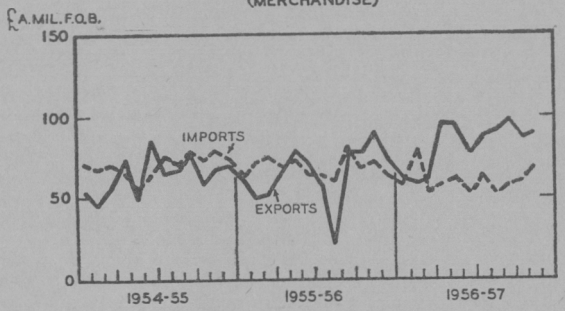
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(EXCLUDING RURAL AND DOMESTIC)



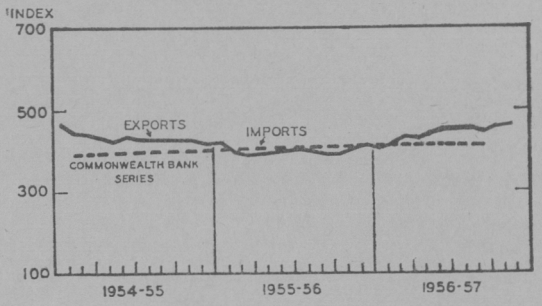
OVERSEA MIGRATION
(PERMANENT MOVEMENT)



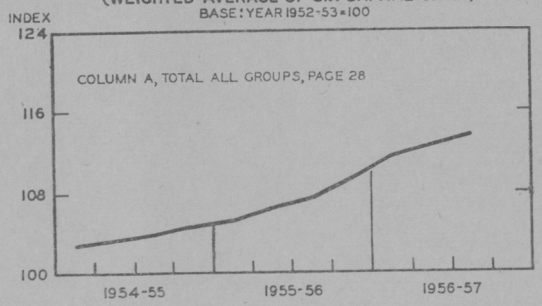
OVERSEA TRADE
(MERCHANDISE)



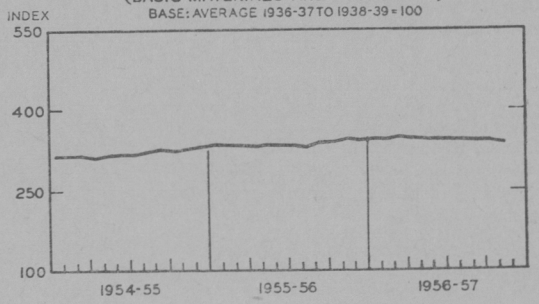
IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



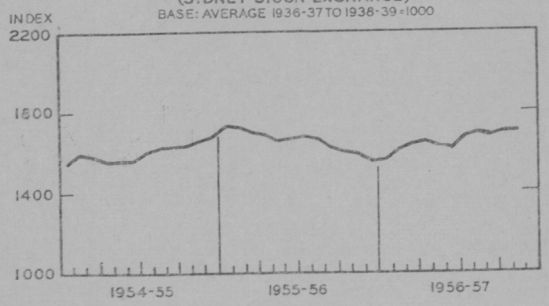
INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX
(WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES)
BASE: YEAR 1952-53 = 100



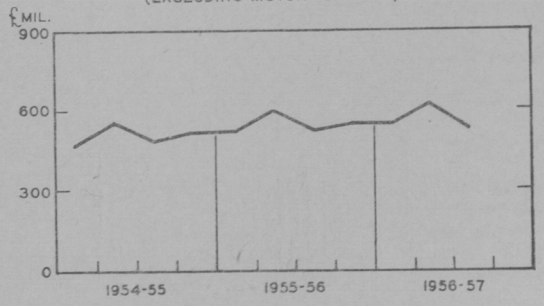
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
(BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX
(SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 1000



RETAIL SALES
(EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, ETC.)



CONTENTS.

The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

n.a.	Not available.
..	Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.
p	Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.
r	Figure or series revised.
———	Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

	PAGE.
GENERAL.	
Indicators of Business Activity	2, 3
POPULATION AND VITAL.	
Marriages, Births, Deaths, Migration and Population	4
Oversea Migration	5
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.	
Wage and Salary Earners in Employment: Australia	6
" " " " " " States	7
" " " " Employed in Factories	8
" " " " " " Retail Trade	9
Average Weekly Total Wages Paid and Average Earnings	10
Unemployment, Sickness and Special Benefits	11, 12
INTERNAL TRADE.	
Value of Retail Sales in Australia: Commodity Groups	13
Retail Sales: Hire Purchase Agreements Entered into by Finance Companies	14, 15, 16
Wholesale Trade	17
OVERSEA TRADE.	
Imports of Merchandise: Economic Classes	18, 19
" " " Degree of Manufacture	20
Exports of Merchandise: Principal Commodities	21
PRICES AND WAGES.	
Export Price Indexes: Simple Aggregate Index (Fixed Weights)	22, 23
Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index	24
" " Indexes and Retail Price Indexes: Various Countries	25
"C" Series Retail Price Index and Wage-Rate Indexes	26
" " " " " Hours and Wages	27
Interim Retail Price Index and Farm Production Price Indexes	28
Share Price Indexes	29
Comparison of Price Indexes	30
BUILDING AND PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITY.	
Building Permits: Six Capital Cities and Suburbs	31
" Operations: Metropolitan and Provincial	32, 33
Value of New Buildings	34
Number of New Houses	35
Production of Coal, Energy and Metals	36
" " Building Materials and Household Appliances	37
" " Textiles and Clothing	38, 39
" " Food and Drink	40
" " Miscellaneous Products	41
Industrial Production Indexes: Various Countries	42
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION.	
Motor Vehicle Registrations	43
Government Railways: Operations and Revenue	44
Shipping Cargoes	45, 46
Post Office Activity	47
FINANCE.	
Private Trading Banks: Liabilities and Assets within Australia	48
" " " Ratios of Assets and Liabilities to Total Deposits within Australia	49
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia and Commonwealth Bank of Australia	50
" Bank of Australia: Central Banking Business	51
All Cheque-paying Banks: Liabilities and Assets within Australia	52
" " " Debits to Customers' Accounts	53
Savings Bank Deposits and Savings Certificates	54
Life Assurance Business	55
Exchange Rates, Gold Prices and Security Yields	56
Interest Rates. Commonwealth and States: Short-term Debt Redeemable in Australia	57
Commonwealth and State Finance: Revenue and Expenditure	58
GRAPHS.	
Employment, Oversea Migration, Oversea Trade, Price Indexes, Retail Sales	*Inside front cover.*
Bank Debits to Customers' Accounts, Deposits and Advances, New Motor Cars and Commercial Vehicles Registered, New Houses, Production of Various Commodities	*Inside back cover.*

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein :—

Period.	Total Civil Employment.—End of Month (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic). (a)			Average Weekly Wage Earnings (b) Index (Base : 1945–46=1,000).	Internal Trade.		Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment).		Building Permits(e) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses Commenced.(f)
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Wholesale.(c)	Retail.(d)	Imports.	Exports.		
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.
1936–37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	n.a.	8.6	12.3	1,986	n.a.
1937–38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	n.a.	10.6	11.7	2,307	n.a.
1938–39	(g)1,293	(g)437	(g)1,730	n.a.	39.8	n.a.	9.4	10.1	2,353	n.a.
1949–50	1,810	675	2,485	1,451	110.2	276.4	44.7	51.0	7,129	(h)16,726
1950–51	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	342.7	61.8	81.6	10,426	(h)20,686
1951–52	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	404.0	87.5	55.4	9,700	20,001
1952–53	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	425.8	42.5	70.7	10,045	16,115
1953–54	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	460.2	56.5	67.7	12,356	18,811
1954–55	1,971	727	2,698	2,572	205.5	503.8	70.1	63.2	17,920	18,870
1955–56	2,012	753	2,765	2,743	221.3	540.8	68.2	64.4	18,903	17,726
Monthly Total—										
1955–56—										
July	1,996	739	2,735	2,689	207.0	r513.5	61.5	60.9	18,238	19,491
August ..	2,000	741	2,741		230.5		71.2	48.7	22,578	
September ..	2,003	744	2,747		229.8		74.9	51.4	19,865	
October ..	2,002	748	2,750	2,731	224.7	r596.2	68.1	65.6	18,197	17,970
November ..	2,012	756	2,768		243.5		73.4	77.9	19,708	
December ..	2,013	758	2,771		222.2		63.2	72.4	16,230	
January ..	(i) 1,991	752	(i) 2,743	2,749	178.8	r513.0	(i) 63.4	(i)55.4	14,674	17,139
February ..	2,019	759	2,778		208.1		(i) 59.1	(i)20.1	18,732	
March	2,021	762	2,783		234.1		(i) 80.5	(i)77.5	20,332	
April	2,026	760	2,786	2,801	217.8	540.4	68.0	(i)78.0	17,766	16,298
May	2,028	761	2,789		235.4		71.6	(i)90.0	22,382	
June	2,026	759	2,785		223.7		63.4	(i)72.9	18,143	
1956–57—							p	p		
July	2,022	758	2,780	2,863	210.3	r535.2	57.3	60.9	18,814	16,589
August ..	2,020	756	2,776		237.6		78.8	57.3	17,774	
September ..	2,020	757	2,777		229.5		53.7	60.1	15,616	
October ..	2,018	759	2,777	2,903	254.7	r619.9	57.1	r95.3	19,302	16,608
November ..	2,027	765	2,792		259.9		59.7	r93.6	18,218	
December ..	2,022	764	2,786		235.2		52.1	76.0	12,083	
January ..	2,018	759	2,777	2,910	r209.2	532.0	62.7	r87.7	15,720	16,693
February ..	2,026	767	2,793		pr225.8		r50.9	r89.3	16,363	
March ..	2,029	769	2,798		p234.6		58.6	r97.9	18,210	
April	2,022	765	2,787				60.9	r87.9		
May								90.7		

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad and National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1949–50 subject to revision. (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts. (d) Quarterly average sales for years and quarterly total sales. Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. Excludes Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc. (e) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (*see* note (a) page 33). (f) Includes owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. From September quarter, 1954, includes Northern Territory. (g) July, 1939; obtained from National Register. (h) Partly estimated. (i) Affected by industrial disputes.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, ———, *see* page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—*continued.*

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (*a*) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways: Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Department Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (*b*)		Bank Debits to Customers' Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1936–37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	3,517	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937–38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	3,705	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938–39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	3,662	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1948–49 ..	1,237	754	98.2	5.5	3.1	7,165	2,776	776.4	368.6	212.8
1949–50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,683	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950–51 ..	1,368	875	120.3	10.7	6.5	8,804	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951–52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.5	6.1	11,626	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952–53 ..	1,545	1,004	150.1	7.8	4 3	12,903	5,367	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953–54 ..	1,619	1,142	176.4	10.5	4.8	14,155	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
1954–55 ..	1,613	1,264	184.1	13.9	5.6	14,498	6,069	1,310.7	776.8	491.6
1955–56 ..	p1,586	p1,399	p194.9	13.6	5.8	14,765	6,612	1,295.4	804.4	521.4
Monthly Total—										
1954–55—						(*c*)				
May ..	1,712	1,381	190.0	16.2	6.2	14,762	6,231	1,328.7	811.4	532.1
June ..	1,712	1,425	178.6	16.5	6.2	14,134	6,637	1,307.2	817.7	521.9
1955–56—	p	p	p							
July ..	1,779	1,492	195.8	15.2	6.0	14,194	5,921	1,280.8	829.9	520.7
August ..	1,908	1,471	197.7	16.8	6.2	15,396	6,509	1,264.2	820.4	479.3
September	1,801	1,376	189.1	16.0	6.6	15,490	6,493	1,257.7	823.1	493.3
October..	1,681	1,369	194.2	15.0	6.6	15,236	6,766	1,277.1	831.4	519.2
November	1,737	1,358	192.2	14.9	6.0	15,512	6,437	1,295.8	823.3	551.4
December	1,346	1,301	192.7	14.4	5.9	14,254	7,142	1,321.5	814.5	563.1
January	843	1,263	197.5	9.9	4.6	13,552	6,097	1,331.8	784.2	489.8
February	1,447	1,300	192.7	12.3	5.3	13,521	6,285	1,331.9	773.7	501.5
March ..	1,479	1,389	202.3	14.2	5.6	14,790	6,803	1,334.4	776.2	526.9
April ..	1,547	1,356	187.6	11.0	5.0	14,151	6,116	1,321.5	786.8	522.4
May ..	1,774	1,545	218.2	12.2	6.2	15,547	7,352	1,277.8	798.4	561.4
June ..	1,691	1,565	217.0	11.7	5.3	15,541	7,422	1,260.4	793.9	525.3
1956–57—										
July ..	1,852	1,655	230.3	11.8	5.4	15,230	6,743	1,243.4	797.7	541.7
August ..	1,930	1,652	206.6	13.7	5.2	16,809	6,716	1,234.4	787.0	482.1
September	1,703	1,500	228.6	11.5	4.5	16,097	6,455	1,248.5	778.5	526.1
October..	1,909	1,538	226.5	13.4	5.5	17,500	8,110	1,281.5	780.2	562.2
November	1,844	1,486	247.7	13.8	5.5	16,714	7,225	1,311.4	771.2	571.2
December	1,275	1,394	247.0	12.0	4.3	14,555	7,611	1,340.6	762.2	589.6
January ..	1,085	1,410	260.4	10.9	3.9	15,029	7,073	1,362.5	744.9	531.0
February	1,623	1,388	237.5	12.0	3.3	14,587	7,312	1,390.9	732.5	590.7
March ..	1,608	1,543	254.5	12.1	5.3	15,350	8,020	1,416.3	725.5	597.3
April ..	1,516	1,421	246.9	r11.3	r4.7		7,539	1,395.0	743.5	593.9
May ..			250.5	13.8	r5.5		8,457	1,368.7	757.3	597.2

(*a*) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938–39. (*b*) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays. (*c*) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p, ———, *see* page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS: AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Oversea Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—							
1946–47	19,399	48,072	18,401	29,671	(d)—1,611	(e) 28,550	f7,579,358
1947–48	19,008	44,252	18,876	25,376	7,341	(e) 32,351	7,708,761
1948–49	18,498	44,149	19,041	25,108	25,287	(e) 49,826	7,908,066
1949–50	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	(e) 67,657	8,178,696
1950–51	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	(e) 60,770	8,421,775
1951–52	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	(e) 53,671	8,636,458
1952–53	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	(e) 44,726	8,815,362
1953–54	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	(e) 42,792	f8,986,530
1954–55	17,848	51,213	20,541	30,672	22,868	53,540	9,200,691
1955–56	18,169	52,719	20,712	32,007	24,710	56,717	9,427,558
Quarterly Total—							
1953–54—							
March Qtr. ..	17,868	49,709	17,367	32,342	12,175	(e) 44,020	8,946,706
June „ ..	18,600	50,613	20,677	29,936	10,340	(e) 39,824	f8,986,530
1954–55—							
September „ ..	15,097	50,772	24,670	26,102	16,809	42,911	9,029,441
December „ ..	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954	9,090,395
March „ ..	17,705	51,318	17,680	33,638	25,101	58,739	9,149,134
June „ ..	18,924	51,600	20,723	30,877	20,680	51,557	9,200,691
1955–56—							
September „ ..	15,449	53,714	24,209	29,505	25,853	55,358	9,256,049
December „ ..	20,094	51,045	19,424	31,621	25,621	57,242	9,313,291
March „ ..	18,680	52,614	18,073	34,541	29,421	63,962	9,377,253
June „ ..	18,453	53,502	21,140	32,362	17,943	50,305	9,427,558
1956–57—							
September „ ..	15,328	53,698	26,511	27,187	24,446	51,633	9,479,191
December „ ..	19,319	52,319	20,364	31,955	22,188	54,143	9,533,334
March „ ..	18,825	55,546	18,641	36,905	21,198	58,103	9,591,437

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net oversea migration. (d) Minus sign (—) denotes excess of departures over arrivals. (e) Includes adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (f) Census 30th June.

POPULATION: STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
30th June—									
1948 ..	3,015,763	2,092,320	1,131,200	661,153	515,074	261,206	12,254	19,791	7,708,761
1949 ..	3,092,621	2,142,986	1,159,124	679,305	532,191	267,062	13,391	21,386	7,908,066
1950 ..	3,193,372	2,208,078	1,196,185	709,547	557,096	275,902	14,692	23,824	8,178,696
1951 ..	3,278,032	2,276,575	1,227,701	732,430	580,343	286,193	15,609	24,892	8,421,775
1952 ..	3,339,455	2,344,491	1,259,478	755,053	599,858	296,299	15,464	26,360	8,636,458
1953 ..	3,383,792	2,395,254	1,291,410	775,781	620,547	304,080	15,853	28,645	8,815,362
1954 (a) ..	3,423,529	2,452,341	1,318,259	797,094	639,771	308,752	16,469	30,315	8,986,530
1955 ..	3,490,331	2,523,018	1,344,572	819,549	658,538	314,679	17,580	32,424	9,200,691
1956 ..	3,553,432	2,605,088	1,370,697	848,526	677,389	319,648	18,297	34,481	9,427,558
31st March—									
1957 ..	3,607,698	2,659,783	1,383,535	868,687	688,132	328,695	18,254	b36,653	9,591,437

(a) Census. (b) Subject to revision in accordance with the results of the June, 1957, Population Count of Canberra.

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

Permanent movement relates to persons, other than Australian troops, intending residence for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary movement relates to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947 onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.	Temporary Movement.				Permanent Movement.		
	Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals.
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—							
1946–47	793	940	1,229	1,430	1,918	2,106	(a)—188
1947–48	2,238	1,981	1,729	1,897	3,881	1,523	2,358
1948–49	2,007	1,898	2,829	2,566	9,568	1,511	8,057
1949–50	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950–51	2.812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951–52	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952–53	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953–54	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
1954–55	4,107	4,013	4,277	4,220	10,348	2,877	7,471
1955–56	4,719	4,469	4,608	4,515	11,052	3,159	7,893
Monthly Total—							
1954–55—							
May	3,675	5,760	4,353	4,699	9,408	3,030	6,378
June	3,228	3,405	3,441	3,557	14,664	2,529	12,135
1955–56—							
July	3,050	3,143	3,089	3,557	7,885	3,130	4,755
August	3,842	2,859	4,025	3,521	10,926	2,681	8,245
September ..	4,781	2,714	4,021	3,847	11,675	1,989	9,686
October	6,313	4,558	5,078	4,501	8,868	3,451	5,417
November ..	5,735	3,530	4,611	4,876	10,083	3,224	6,859
December ..	5,158	5,376	5,618	4,755	11,221	2,793	8,428
January	6,201	4,828	5,703	5,468	13,328	4,227	9,101
February ..	4,549	4,936	5,294	4,826	11,436	3,004	8,432
March	4,942	6,316	5,430	5,109	14,843	3,591	11,252
April	4,431	5,500	4,252	4,863	10,913	2,983	7,930
May	3,937	6,315	4,771	4,923	11,057	3,844	7,213
June	3,687	3,559	3,405	3,929	10,393	2,987	7,406
1956–57—							
July	2,964	2,909	3,444	3,371	7,551	2,425	5,126
August	4,899	3,167	4,068	4,000	11,353	2,858	8,495
September ..	5,634	2,568	4,516	3,703	7,917	2,899	5,018
October	5,291	2,761	5,246	4,535	7,749	3,098	4,651
November ..	5,540	4,462	14,286	6,080	11,063	3,372	7,691
December ..	5,533	4,079	5,603	13,526	6,219	2,429	3,790
January	5,347	4,437	5,333	6,432	10,731	4,143	6,588
February ..	4,787	5,010	5,557	5,639	11,577	3,740	7,837
March	4,203	5,007	5,674	5,315	10,601	2,889	7,712
April	3,853	6,206	4,311	5,443	7,409	3,192	4,217
May	3,870	5,792	4,530	5,626	15,378	4,881	10,497

(a) Minus sign (—) denotes excess of departures over arrivals.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.(*a*)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civil Employment. (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(*b*)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories. (*c*)	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services. (*d*)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1954—June ..	581.4	1,367.0	1,948.4	58.7	696.1	205.7	300.1	128.4	198.3	176.6
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
1956—June ..	604.8	1,421.1	2,025.9	57.3	722.2	214.6	310.4	129.9	212.7	187.2
1956—January(*e*)..	595.3	1,395.4	1,990.7	57.2	718.9	207.0	288.5	131.4	212.6	184.6
February ..	597.5	1,421.3	2,018.8	56.6	721.8	210.1	309.2	130.2	213.6	186.6
March ..	598.9	1,421.2	2,020.1	56.5	722.4	209.5	308.3	130.5	214.3	188.0
April ..	601.1	1,424.3	2,025.4	56.8	723.9	211.7	310.9	130.1	213.8	187.4
1957—January ..	602.1	1,415.4	2,017.5	56.8	715.0	209.3	310.5	130.2	215.0	190.0
February ..	605.0	1,421.0	2,026.0	56.5	720.3	210.7	311.0	129.7	215.4	191.1
March ..	605.2	1,423.8	2,029.0	56.6	722.6	210.6	311.4	129.1	215.6	192.0
April ..	606.9	1,415.4	2,022.3	56.4	720.4	206.4	311.9	128.8	214.6	192.6
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1954—June ..	114.5	593.0	707.5	1.0	219.8	4.7	36.5	115.3	77.0	218.7
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
1956—June ..	129.8	629.1	758.9	1.2	228.3	5.1	40.1	122.9	88.1	236.5
1956—January ..	123.9	628.3	752.2	1.1	226.7	4.9	39.5	125.9	86.2	231.8
February ..	127.3	632.1	759.4	1.1	231.7	5.0	39.9	123.3	88.1	234.0
March ..	128.7	633.5	762.2	1.1	230.8	5.0	40.0	123.2	89.0	236.7
April ..	129.3	631.0	760.3	1.2	229.4	5.0	40.1	122.7	88.6	236.9
1957—January ..	128.1	630.6	758.7	1.2	226.0	5.2	40.2	122.9	89.5	237.0
February ..	131.2	635.3	766.5	1.2	230.3	5.3	40.2	121.6	90.8	240.3
March ..	131.4	637.4	768.8	1.2	232.7	5.3	40.3	121.2	91.0	240.9
April ..	132.4	632.7	765.1	1.2	228.8	5.2	40.3	120.7	90.3	241.3
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.6
1954—June ..	695.9	1,960.0	2,655.9	59.7	915.9	210.4	336.6	243.7	275.3	395.3
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
1956—June ..	734.6	2,050.2	2,784.8	58.5	950.5	219.7	350.5	252.8	300.8	423.7
1956—January(*e*)..	719.2	2,023.7	2,742.9	58.3	945.6	211.9	328.0	257.3	298.8	416.4
February ..	724.8	2,053.4	2,778.2	57.7	953.5	215.1	349.1	253.5	301.7	420.6
March ..	727.6	2,054.7	2,782.3	57.6	953.2	214.5	348.3	253.7	303.3	424.7
April ..	730.4	2,055.3	2,785.7	58.0	953.3	216.7	351.0	252.8	302.4	424.3
1957—January ..	730.2	2,046.0	2,776.2	58.0	941.0	214.5	350.7	253.1	304.5	427.0
February ..	736.2	2,056.3	2,792.5	57.7	950.6	216.0	351.2	251.3	306.2	431.4
March ..	736.6	2,061.2	2,797.8	57.8	955.3	215.9	351.7	250.3	306.6	432.3
April ..	739.3	2,048.1	2,787.4	57.6	949.2	211.6	352.2	249.5	304.9	434.5

(*a*) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June, 1954, subject to revision. (*b*) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, &c., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (*c*) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (*d*) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic). (*e*) Affected by industrial disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : STATES.(a)

('000.)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1954—June ..	758.1	539.7	263.7	176.0	135.0	62.8	4.9	8.2	1,948.4
1955—June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
1956—June ..	787.8	564.2	276.0	184.5	135.5	64.4	5.0	8.5	2,025.9
1955—December ..	786.1	560.9	269.0	181.9	137.5	63.7	4.9	8.9	2,012.9
1956—January (b)	777.3	557.8	263.6	180.4	135.1	62.7	4.9	8.9	1,990.7
February ..	786.7	563.0	270.5	183.0	137.6	64.3	4.8	8.9	2,018.8
March ..	785.8	564.2	270.8	183.8	137.6	64.3	4.8	8.8	2,020.1
April ..	787.8	565.0	273.2	184.4	136.9	64.7	4.9	8.5	2,025.4
December ..	791.6	563.1	272.0	182.2	134.7	65.1	5.2	8.7	2,022.6
1957—January ..	789.4	562.5	268.8	182.7	134.2	65.7	5.4	8.8	2,017.5
February ..	790.6	564.7	272.9	183.0	134.6	65.9	5.5	8.8	2,026.0
March ..	791.4	565.4	273.4	183.6	134.8	66.0	5.5	8.9	2,029 0
April ..	788.3	564.3	271.5	183.1	134.6	66.1	5.5	8.9	2,022.3
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1954—June ..	279.5	217.7	86.1	56.9	42.8	21.0	0.9	2.6	707.5
1955—June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
1956—June ..	300.2	233.0	91.2	62.9	44.6	22.8	1.1	3.1	758.9
1955—December ..	303.4	229.9	91.0	63.2	44.5	22.2	1.1	2.9	758.2
1956—January ..	298.5	229.6	90.2	64.0	43.7	22.2	1.1	2.9	752.2
February ..	300.9	233.0	90.9	63.7	44.6	22.2	1.0	3.1	759.4
March ..	301.1	234.7	91.3	63.7	44.7	22.7	1.0	3.0	762.2
April ..	300.4	233.8	90.6	63.6	44.8	23.0	1.1	3.0	760.3
December ..	304.7	232.8	92.0	62.9	44.6	22.6	1.2	3.0	763.8
1957—January ..	301.3	231.3	91.3	64.0	43.8	22.7	1.1	3.2	758.7
February ..	303.5	234.5	92.4	64.3	44.8	22.8	1.1	3.1	766.5
March ..	304.2	235.8	92.1	64 6	45.0	22.8	1.1	3.2	768.8
April ..	302.6	234.8	92.1	63.9	44.5	22.9	1.1	3.2	765.1
PERSONS.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1954—June ..	1,037.6	757.4	349.8	232.9	177.8	83.8	5.8	10.8	2,655.9
1955—June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
1956—June ..	1,088.0	797.2	367.2	247.4	180.1	87.2	6.1	11.6	2,784.8
1955—December ..	1,089.5	790.8	360.0	245.1	182.0	85.9	6.0	11.8	2,771.1
1956 January (b)	1,075.8	787.4	353.8	244.4	178.8	84.9	6.0	11.8	2,742.9
February ..	1,087.6	796.0	361.4	246.7	182.2	86.5	5.8	12.0	2,778.2
March ..	1,086.9	798.9	362.1	247.5	182.3	87.0	5.8	11.8	2,782.3
April ..	1,088.2	798.8	363.8	248.0	181.7	87.7	6.0	11.5	2,785.7
December ..	1,096.3	795.9	364.0	245.1	179.3	87.7	6.4	11.7	2,786.4
1957—January ..	1,090.7	793.8	360.1	246.7	178.0	88.4	6.5	12.0	2,776.2
February ..	1,094.1	799.2	365.3	247.3	179.4	88.7	6.6	11.9	2,792.5
March ..	1,095.6	801.2	365.5	248.2	179.8	88.8	6.6	12.1	2,797.8
April ..	1,090.9	799.1	363.6	247.0	179.1	89.0	6.6	12.1	2,787.4

(a) Excludes Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. (b) Affected by industrial disputes. *See also* notes on page 6.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June. 1939 = 1,000.	
										Unadjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.		
1936–37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937–38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938–39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1949–50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950–51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951–52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952–53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953–54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
1954–55 ..	384.0	308.5	87.1	85.1	41.3	23.0	704.9	224.1	929.0	1,767	1,334
1955–56 ..	391.5	315.6	87.8	87.0	41.8	24.3	719.8	228.2	948.0	1,803	1,328
Monthly Total—											
1954–55—											
April ..	386.9	311.2	86.4	86.5	41.9	23.8	711.4	225.3	936.7	1,782	1,336
May ..	388.0	310.7	88.0	85.8	42.0	23.8	713.5	224.8	938.3	1,785	1,335
June ..	388.2	311.6	88.9	85.7	41.8	23.6	714.5	225.3	939.8	1,787	1,335
1955–56—											
July(b) ..	386.3	310.2	89.8	85.7	41.5	23.1	712.2	224.4	936.6	1,781	1,327
August ..	389.7	312.1	89.7	85.5	41.7	23.1	716.2	225.6	941.8	1,791	1,333
September	390.2	312.9	90.0	86.0	42.0	23.2	717.4	226.9	944.3	1,796	1,333
October ..	391.7	314.5	90.0	86.0	41.9	23.3	718.7	228.7	947.4	1,802	1,335
November	393.3	315.6	90.2	86.4	42.2	23.5	722.4	228.8	951.2	1,809	1,338
December	392.3	314.8	85.0	87.3	42.3	24.4	718.5	227.6	946.1	1,800	1,328
January(b)	391.1	315.5	83.4	88.7	42.1	24.8	718.9	226.7	945.6	1,799	1,324
February..	394.2	318.9	85.4	88.3	42.0	24.7	721.8	231.7	953.5	1,814	1,332
March ..	392.5	319.6	86.0	88.6	41.7	24.8	722.4	230.8	953.2	1,813	1,328
April ..	393.1	318.5	87.0	87.8	41.5	25.4	723.9	229.4	953.3	1,813	1,326
May ..	392.4	317.5	88.1	87.1	41.3	25.5	723.1	228.8	951.9	1,810	1,321
June ..	391.6	316.6	89.5	86.4	41.0	25.4	722.2	228.3	950.5	1,808	1,318
1956–57—											
July ..	389.5	315.0	90.0	86.1	40.7	25.3	719.9	226.7	946.6	1,800	1,309
August ..	390.0	313.6	89.5	85.8	40.5	25.1	718.2	226.3	944.5	1,796	1,304
September	390.9	313.7	89.7	85.6	40.8	24.6	718.1	227.2	945.3	1,798	1,303
October	391.1	312.5	89.3	85.5	40.9	24.7	716.9	227.1	944.0	1,795	1,299
November	392.8	313.3	89.6	85.2	41.0	24.8	719.3	227.4	946.7	1,801	1,300
December	391.6	311.7	85.2	85.2	41.0	25.4	715.3	224.8	940.1	1,788	1,288
January ..	393.0	310.7	83.4	86.8	40.9	26.2	715.0	226.0	941.0	1,790	1,288
February..	394.9	314.3	87.3	87.1	41.0	26.0	720.3	230.3	950.6	1,808	1,298
March ..	396.8	316.8	87.9	87.0	41.1	25.7	722.6	232.7	955.3	1,817	1,303
April ..	395.0	314.0	87.3	86.1	41.0	25.8	720.4	228.8	949.2	1,805	1,291

(a) Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1949–50 subject to revision. (b) Affected by industrial disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE. (a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)		
							Males.	Females.	Persons.
Monthly Average—									
1949–50.. ..	93.4	66.8	30.2	23.1	17.6	7.0	126.7	112.0	238.7
1950–51.. ..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951–52.. ..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952–53.. ..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953–54.. ..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
1954–55.. ..	96.3	69.9	31.2	24.2	19.6	7.7	129.7	119.8	249.5
1955–56.. ..	97.7	71.4	31.7	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	124.2	254.7
Monthly Total—									
1954–55—									
April	95.9	70.0	31.0	24.5	19.7	7.8	129.2	120.3	249.5
May	96.5	70.3	31.3	24.6	19.7	7.8	129.4	121.6	251.0
June	95.7	71.0	31.3	24.6	19.8	7.8	129.2	121.6	250.8
1955–56—									
July	96.1	70.0	31.5	24.7	19.7	7.9	128.8	121.7	250.5
August ..	95.9	70.2	31.3	24.6	19.6	7.8	128.8	121.3	250.1
September ..	96.1	70.6	31.3	24.9	19.6	7.8	128.9	122.1	251.0
October ..	96.5	71.2	31.6	25.1	19.7	7.9	129.5	123.3	252.8
November ..	100.6	73.0	32.5	25.7	20.0	8.1	131.9	128.8	260.7
December ..	106.0	73.5	32.5	26.3	20.5	8.3	135.6	132.3	267.9
January ..	98.0	72.3	32.1	25.9	20.2	8.0	131.4	125.9	257.3
February ..	96.6	71.2	31.4	25.7	19.9	8.0	130.2	123.3	253.5
March ..	97.2	71.2	31.5	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	123.2	253.7
April	96.3	71.2	31.6	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.1	122.7	252.8
May	96.5	71.3	31.7	25.4	19.7	8.0	130.1	123.3	253.4
June	96.0	71.6	31.9	25.2	19.6	7.8	129.9	122.9	252.8
1956–57—									
July	95.8	71.0	31.7	25.3	19.6	7.8	129.5	122.4	251.9
August ..	95.1	70.6	31.6	24.8	19.5	7.8	129.0	121.0	250.0
September ..	94.9	70.8	31.5	24.8	19.4	7.7	128.7	121.1	249.8
October ..	95.3	71.2	31.9	24.9	19.6	7.8	129.2	122.2	251.4
November ..	99.1	72.9	32.7	25.2	19.7	7.9	131.9	126.5	258.4
December ..	103.5	73.8	32.9	25.1	20.2	8.4	134.8	130.0	264.8
January ..	96.1	71.1	32.1	25.0	19.9	8.1	130.2	122.9	253.1
February ..	95.3	70.9	31.9	24.7	19.8	8.0	129.7	121.6	251.3
March ..	95.2	70.5	31.6	24.6	19.8	7.9	129.1	121.2	250.3
April	94.7	70.5	31.6	24.6	19.6	8.0	128.8	120.7	249.5

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures subject to revision.
(b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 75 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).							
1949–50	9,018	6,370	2,838	1,894	1,315	672	22,107
1950–51	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951–52	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952–53	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953–54	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1954–55	17,357	12,221	5,398	3,839	2,731	1,365	42,911
1955–56	18,955	13,358	5,809	4,195	2,897	1,476	46,690
1954–55—							
March Qtr. ..	16,511	11,678	5,017	3,712	2,610	1,346	40,874
June „ ..	18,235	12,916	5,619	4,033	2,813	1,492	45,108
1955–56—							
September „ ..	18,454	12,890	5,765	4,097	2,844	1,414	45,464
December „ ..	19,683	13,664	6,034	4,267	2,980	1,462	48,090
March „ ..	18,229	12,832	5,435	4,057	2,849	1,442	44,844
June „ ..	19,453	14,045	6,002	4,359	2,915	1,587	48,361
1956–57—							
September „ ..	19,613	13,877	6,145	4,364	3,003	1,529	48,531
December „ ..	21,038	14,627	6,584	4,497	3,011	1,610	51,367
March „ ..	19,420	13,500	5,837	4,231	2,899	1,584	47,471
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)							
1949–50	9.50	9.78	8.34	8.83	8.65	8.49	9.26
1950–51	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951–52	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952–53	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953–54	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1954–55	16.96	17.06	14.51	16.09	15.55	15.60	16.42
1955–56	18.16	18.22	15.34	17.10	16.37	16.66	17.51
1954–55—							
March Qtr. ..	16.07	16.20	13.59	15.50	14.86	15.20	15.59
June „ ..	17.64	17.81	14.90	16.73	15.92	16.76	17.07
1955–56—							
September „ ..	17.79	17.75	15.16	16.98	16.12	16.11	17.16
December „ ..	18.83	18.68	15.89	17.49	16.82	16.65	18.04
March „ ..	17.46	17.43	14.54	16.43	16.08	16.25	16.81
June „ ..	18.57	19.00	15.75	17.51	16.45	17.61	18.02
1956–57—							
September „ ..	18.75	18.87	15.97	17.63	17.14	17.15	18.12
December „ ..	20.01	19.84	17.14	18.20	17.19	18.04	19.13
March „ ..	18.45	18.27	15.37	17.01	16.57	17.43	17.67

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences.

UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS.(a)

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT.

Period.	Unemployment.								Sickness.	Special. (b)
	New South Wales.(c)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (d)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	A.C.T. (e)	Australia.	Australia.	Australia.
Average of Monthly Figures—										
1948–49 (f) ..	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949–50 (f) ..	8,327	123	1,371	241	155	30	..	10,247	7,585	897
1950–51 (f) ..	287	71	326	6	59	14	..	763	7,059	863
1951–52 (f) ..	949	220	1,374	24	64	16	..	2,647	6,454	993
1952–53	17,590	6,168	4,281	842	841	262	..	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953–54	6,495	2,698	3,169	252	406	212	..	13,232	7,994	1,868
1954–55	1,440	539	1,408	66	153	81	3	3,690	7,984	1,983
1955–56	1,362	479	1,511	83	515	57	6	4,013	7,303	1,973
Last Saturday of Month —										
1954–55—										
May	1,049	335	1,140	62	171	32	4	h 2,794	7,734	2,090
June	1,040	319	964	70	239	45	2	2,679	7,905	2,045
1955–56—										
July	1,068	335	615	55	268	67	2	2,410	8,111	2,007
August ..	899	367	539	49	248	83	2	h 2,188	8,077	2,026
September ..	706	327	425	37	256	80	1	1,832	7,729	1,977
October ..	658	294	427	46	215	85	2	1,727	7,402	1,957
November ..	644	277	431	44	216	64	1	1,677	7,409	1,970
December ..	965	356	1,442	56	377	48	1	3,245	6,703	1,943
January ..	1,321	359	2,561	46	414	40	1	4,742	6,846	1,965
February ..	1,932	341	3,371	55	374	50	5	6,128	7,150	1,998
March ..	2,233	350	3,268	62	536	31	12	g 6,494	6,855	1,966
April	1,771	566	2,223	86	683	30	18	g 5,379	6,979	1,947
May	1,837	760	1,562	140	989	36	11	h 5,336	7,129	1,977
June	2,313	1,412	1,270	319	1,606	71	12	7,003	7,244	1,947
1956–57—										
July	3,051	2,515	909	493	2,082	91	22	h 9,164	7,453	2,040
August.. ..	3,103	3,129	809	706	2,304	110	16	10,177	7,557	2,029
September ..	3,208	2,949	792	674	1,871	108	12	9,614	7,288	1,998
October ..	3,126	3,067	829	640	1,788	88	7	9,545	7,261	1,986
November ..	3,308	3,085	821	770	1,666	92	16	h 9,759	7,137	1,962
December ..	4,329	3,593	2,118	978	2,126	97	36	13,277	6,520	1,967
January ..	4,168	3,493	4,083	702	2,244	88	23	h 14,802	6,515	2,053
February ..	4,327	2,677	4,218	462	1,930	71	9	13,694	6,808	2,076
March ..	4,311	2,771	3,802	481	1,607	94	11	13,077	7,112	2,063
April	5,230	3,772	3,876	631	1,804	126	14	15,453	6,506	2,008
May	5,378	4,057	3,009	835	1,803	236	7	15,325	6,896	1,985

(a) As furnished by the Department of Social Services. (b) Excludes migrants. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory prior to July, 1954. (d) Includes Northern Territory prior to July, 1954. (e) Included with New South Wales prior to July, 1954. (f) Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII. of the *Social Services Act* 1947–1956. (g) Includes Northern Territory, 2. (h) Includes Northern Territory, 1.

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT(*a*) AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS: AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.			Amount Paid in Benefits.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unemployment.	Sickness.	Special— Migrants.	Special— Ordinary.	Total.
				£	£	£	£	£
Monthly Average—								
1948–49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949–50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950–51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951–52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	2,319	6,911	83,971
1952–53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953–54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
1954–55.. ..	1,529	496	2,025	56,620	133,987	4,534	24,848	219,989
1955–56.. ..	2,525	590	3,115	55,985	126,589	5,433	25,585	213,592
Monthly Total—								
1954–55—								
May	927	453	1,380	54,011	126,048	5,414	28,154	213,627
June	1,043	476	1,519	39,883	121,975	1,390	27,838	191,086
1955–56—								
July (*b*) ..	1,076	638	1,714	37,265	127,405	3,745	32,994	201,409
August ..	681	363	1,044	30,073	127,300	3,404	25,402	186,179
September ..	607	276	883	29,572	154,338	4,307	32,351	220,568
October (*b*) ..	706	363	1,069	23,563	121,599	11,343	16,726	173,231
November ..	663	338	1,001	22,461	120,050	4,763	24,762	172,036
December (*b*) ..	2,225	449	2,674	23,298	121,350	2,603	23,519	170,770
January ..	3,733	439	4,172	52,714	139,321	6,945	26,958	225,938
February ..	5,851	850	6,701	80,469	119,925	7,737	22,343	230,474
March (*b*) ..	3,776	816	4,592	90,790	123,763	3,278	24,865	242,696
April	3,078	694	3,772	108,321	120,559	8,714	24,419	262,013
May	2,987	790	3,777	86,573	119,215	4,563	25,652	236,003
June (*b*) ..	4,919	1,066	5,985	86,720	124,246	3,797	27,032	241,795
1956–57—								
July	5,405	1,017	6,422	101,482	120,263	8,638	22,206	252,589
August ..	6,203	1,029	7,232	141,971	147,559	6,164	29,466	325,160
September(*b*) ..	6,289	985	7,274	137,539	122,136	5,042	22,366	287,083
October ..	4,703	828	5,531	145,851	137,133	1,789	27,377	312,150
November ..	4,564	987	5,551	128,343	108,286	1,647	24,028	262,304
December(*b*) ..	7,480	1,071	8,551	119,325	106,912	3,925	24,167	254,329
January ..	8,069	849	8,918	247,430	133,027	4,747	31,168	416,372
February ..	7,755	1,245	9,000	222,303	116,006	4,956	31,777	375,042
March (*b*) ..	6,907	1,467	8,374	193,234	117,846	7,286	25,130	343,496
April	7,319	1,364	8,683	172,388	105,214	7,762	24,025	309,389
May	6,893	1,323	8,216	230,126	135,683	10,889	30,128	406,826

(*a*) Number admitted during the four weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month except where otherwise shown. (*b*) Number admitted during the five weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month.

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN AUSTRALIA(*a*): COMMODITY GROUPS.

The figures in the table below relate to goods (as distinct from services, accommodation, entertainments, meals, etc.) sold to the public by establishments selling retail goods from fixed premises (shops, rooms, kiosks, yards) and include the retail sales of establishments principally engaged in wholesale, manufacturing or servicing activities. The table contains particulars of retail sales of goods for the years 1948–49 to 1955–56 on a comparable basis throughout. The figures for the years 1948–49 and 1952–53 were obtained from Censuses taken in respect of those years, whereas figures for the other periods shown are estimates based on sample surveys. To provide comparability with the 1952–53 Census an adjustment has been made in the figures originally published for hardware, china and glassware for 1948–49 and subsequent periods.

(£ million.)

Period.	Groceries.	Butchers' Meat.	Other Food. (*b*)	Beer, Wine and Spirits.	Clothing, Drapery and Footwear.	Hardware.(*c*)	Electrical Goods.	Furniture.	Other Goods.	Total (Excl. Motor Vehicles, etc.).	Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.(*d*)
Quarterly Average–											
1948–49 ..	35.9	16.3	29.1	23.8	59.5	13.9	8.5	11.6	42.0	240.6	41.5
1949–50 ..	40.2	18.9	32.9	26.2	66.0	16.6	10.9	13.6	51.1	276.4	68.3
1950–51 ..	46.5	23.1	38.9	30.8	82.1	22.8	16.2	19.2	63.1	342.7	95.5
1951–52 ..	58.2	29.7	47.0	38.5	87.9	27.4	19.4	19.0	76.9	404.0	108.3
1952–53 ..	65.4	32.0	51.7	43.3	88.8	28.5	19.0	18.2	78.9	425.8	104.3
1953–54 ..	68.8	33.4	55.9	46.7	96.9	31.2	22.8	20.3	84.2	460.2	122.8
1954–55 ..	76.5	36.6	61.5	50.5	105.4	35.6	24.9	21.6	91.2	503.8	144.7
1955–56 ..	83.8	39.8	67.5	54.7	109.7	38.3	26.4	22.7	97.9	540.8	160.3
Quarterly Total—											
1951–52—											
Mar. „ ..	58.2	30.1	48.4	41.3	77.9	26.7	18.2	17.2	74.2	392.2	108.5
June „ ..	61.6	31.2	47.3	38.6	92.6	27.1	16.6	17.7	74.9	407.6	103.5
1952–53—											
Sept. „ ..	62.8	31.8	48.6	38.7	80.3	26.4	16.9	17.3	74.7	397.5	95.2
Dec. „ ..	68.9	32.1	54.2	47.4	100.6	30.9	22.5	19.8	89.4	465.8	110.3
Mar. „ ..	63.2	31.2	51.8	44.9	76.5	27.2	18.4	17.5	75.0	405.7	101.5
June „ ..	66.6	32.7	52.2	42.0	97.7	29.3	18.0	18.2	76.4	433.1	110.3
1953–54—											
Sept. „ ..	67.9	33.4	53.0	41.9	88.0	29.6	20.1	19.6	78.9	432.4	113.5
Dec. „ ..	72.9	33.8	58.5	51.9	111.4	34.9	28.0	22.8	96.6	510.8	127.2
Mar. „ ..	65.6	32.7	56.0	48.3	82.7	28.7	22.1	18.1	78.6	432.8	117.2
June „ ..	68.7	34.0	56.2	44.6	105.5	31.5	21.0	20.5	82.8	464.8	133.2
1954–55—											
Sept. „ ..	72.3	35.9	58.2	45.4	97.3	34.3	23.2	21.8	82.3	470.7	141.1
Dec. „ ..	80.8	36.6	64.1	53.6	120.0	39.2	30.5	24.4	104.8	554.0	148.2
Mar. „ ..	74.2	36.0	61.8	53.4	90.0	33.6	23.8	19.2	86.4	478.4	136.6
June „ ..	78.7	38.1	61.7	49.7	114.2	35.4	22.1	21.1	91.1	512.1	153.6
1955–56—											
Sept. „ ..	81.1	38.5	63.9	49.2	103.4	37.7	25.1	23.2	91.4	513.5	163.4
Dec. „ ..	86.2	39.4	70.2	58.9	125.9	42.2	32.8	25.3	115.3	596.2	167.2
Mar. „ ..	83.4	39.2	69.4	56.7	93.1	35.7	24.5	20.3	90.7	513.0	154.1
June „ ..	84.3	41.9	66.6	54.1	116.4	37.7	23.1	22.1	94.2	540.4	156.6
1956–57—											
Sept. „ ..	87.7	42.4	67.8	53.3	102.6	36.9	24.5	23.1	96.9	535.2	156.2
Dec. „ ..	93.1	42.7	72.0	64.2	128.9	42.1	33.9	25.7	117.3	619.9	167.6
Mar. „ ..	85.4	41.8	69.1	60.8	95.6	35.8	26.8	20.7	96.0	532.0	154.9

(*a*) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (*b*) Includes fresh fruit and vegetables, confectionery, soft drinks, ice cream, cakes, pastry, cooked provisions, fish, etc., but excludes some delivered milk and bread. (*c*) Excludes basic building materials (e.g. timber, roofing tiles, bricks, etc.). (*d*) Excludes farm machinery and implements, earth-moving equipment, etc.

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail but do not retail goods themselves. Agreements originally made between retailers and customers, and subsequently assigned to finance companies are excluded from the particulars of agreements made during each month, but from the time of assignment, are included in the figures for balances outstanding.

NEW AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	(Per cent.)
MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.						
Monthly Average—		r	r	r	r	r
1953–54	(c) 19,688	(c) 13,201	(c) 670	(c) 7,374	(c) 375	(c) 56
1954–55	23,116	15,908	688	9,197	398	58
1955–56	25,362	17,648	696	10,427	411	59
Monthly Total—						
1956—May	25,984	18,518	713	10,787	415	58
June	23,938	17,459	729	10,465	437	60
July	26,544	19,066	718	11,474	432	60
August	28,774	20,327	706	12,448	433	61
September	25,964	18,740	722	11,270	434	60
October	29,964	21,600	721	13,208	441	61
November	28,315	20,299	717	12,416	438	61
December	24,661	17,076	692	10,403	422	61
1957—January	25,607	17,553	685	10,678	417	61
February	23,337	16,557	709	10,087	432	61
March	25,199	18,016	715	10,937	434	61
April p	24,537	17,324	706	10,574	431	61
May p	27,049	19,616	725	11,938	441	61
PLANT AND MACHINERY.						
Monthly Average—		r	r	r		
1953–54	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
1954–55	1,238	779	629	476	384	61
1955–56	1,610	1,044	648	646	401	62
Monthly Total—						
1956—May	1,748	1,040	595	641	367	62
June	1,385	992	716	631	456	64
July	1,484	1,027	692	r 655	r 441	64
August	1,759	1,070	608	r 676	r 384	63
September	1,615	1,476	914	r 956	r 592	65
October	2,158	1,338	620	r 811	r 376	61
November	2,303	1,473	640	r 902	r 392	61
December	2,038	1,350	662	831	r 408	r 62
1957—January	2,158	1,280	593	r 794	r 368	62
February	2,132	1,247	585	r 770	r 361	62
March	2,339	1,376	588	r 827	r 354	r 60
April p	1,984	1,172	591	733	369	63
May p	2,003	1,324	661	819	409	62

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance). (b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.
(c) Includes plant and machinery. (d) Included with Motor Vehicles, Tractors, etc.

For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—*continued.*

NEW AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	(Per cent.)
HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.						
Monthly Average—						
1953–54	r 46,567	r 3,437	74	r 2,701	58	r 79
1954–55	53,772	4,089	76	3,312	r 63	81
1955–56	56,963	4,306	76	3,494	61	81
Monthly Total—						
1956—May	56,685	3,821	67	3,076	54	r 81
June	51,849	3,410	66	2,754	53	81
July	51,401	3,245	63	2,602	51	80
August	53,423	3,634	68	2,889	54	79
September	47,546	3,352	71	2,677	56	80
October	56,862	4,329	76	3,437	r 60	79
November	59,740	4,768	80	3,825	64	80
December	67,935	5,000	74	4,033	r 59	81
1957—January	61,098	5,002	r 82	3,973	r 65	79
February	55,780	4,407	79	3,545	r 64	80
March	59,367	4,639	78	3,717	r 63	80
April p	52,754	4,266	81	3,424	65	80
May p	63,224	5,285	84	4,268	68	81
TOTAL (ALL GOODS).						
Monthly Average—						
1953–54	r 66,255	r 16,638	251	r 10,075	152	61
1954–55	78,126	20,776	266	12,985	166	r 63
1955–56	83,935	22,998	274	14,567	174	63
Monthly Total—						
1956—May	84,417	23,379	r 277	14,504	172	62
June	77,172	21,861	r 283	13,850	r 179	63
July	79,429	23,338	294	14,731	r 185	63
August	83,956	25,031	r 298	16,013	191	64
September	75,125	23,568	r 313	14,903	r 198	63
October	88,984	27,267	r 306	17,456	r 196	64
November	90,358	26,540	r 294	17,143	190	65
December	94,634	23,426	r 248	15,267	r 161	65
1957—January	88,863	23,835	268	15,445	174	65
February	81,249	22,211	273	14,402	r 177	65
March	86,905	24,031	r 277	15,481	178	64
April p	79,275	22,762	287	14,731	186	65
May p	92,276	26,225	284	17,025	185	65

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance). (b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.
For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—*continued.*

BALANCES OUTSTANDING (INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE), STATES.(*a*)

(£'000.)

As at—	New South Wales.(*b*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(*c*)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1953—							
30th September(*d*) ..	r 37,690	21,757	16,125	r 9,400	7,372	3,426	r 95,770
31st December(*d*) ..	43,205	25,157	18,404	10,959	8,415	3,865	110,005
1954—							
31st March ..	47,006	27,615	19,710	11,868	8,957	4,232	119,388
30th June	50,863	30,806	22,385	13,266	10,154	4,772	132,246
30th September ..	54,457	34,240	24,076	14,925	11,382	5,274	144,354
31st December ..	61,413	38,877	26,537	16,730	12,525	5,918	162,000
1955—							
31st March ..	65,469	41,843	27,472	17,425	13,197	6,434	171,840
30th June	69,240	44,590	29,067	18,354	14,151	7,012	182,414
30th September ..	75,422	48,283	31,029	19,749	15,078	7,460	197,021
31st December ..	79,879	53,180	32,477	21,352	16,080	7,951	210,919
1956—							
31st January ..	79,252	53,525	32,393	21,173	16,192	8,048	210,583
29th February ..	78,819	54,438	32,089	21,212	15,844	8,060	210,462
31st March ..	78,935	55,030	32,060	21,266	15,844	8,033	211,168
30th April ..	78,651	r 55,365	31,952	21,102	15,703	8,067	210,840
31st May ..	78,937	r 55,792	31,907	21,147	15,535	8,157	211,475
30th June	79,071	r 56,025	31,941	21,195	15,408	8,163	211,803
31st July ..	79,302	r 56,433	32,405	21,383	15,292	8,249	213,064
31st August ..	79,932	r 57,110	32,975	21,838	15,280	8,362	215,497
30th September ..	80,889	r 57,748	33,521	22,281	15,289	8,477	218,205
31st October ..	81,812	r 58,617	34,331	22,844	15,441	8,632	221,677
30th November ..	82,497	r 59,972	35,013	23,632	15,637	8,804	225,555
31st December ..	83,742	r 61,023	35,610	24,213	15,899	9,004	229,491
1957—							
31st January ..	83,986	r 61,221	r 35,975	24,590	r 15,794	r 8,959	230,525
28th February ..	83,740	r 61,324	r 36,068	24,696	r 15,417	r 8,938	230,183
31st March ..	83,379	r 61,848	r 36,131	24,672	r 15,325	r 9,011	230,366
30th April p ..	83,686	62,307	36,296	24,605	15,458	8,948	231,300
31st May p ..	83,922	63,147	36,354	24,724	15,549	8,996	232,692

(*a*) Balances outstanding on existing agreements entered into at any time. (*b*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*c*) Includes Northern Territory. (*d*) Excludes balances outstanding on agreements originally financed by retailers but subsequently assigned to finance companies. At 31st March, 1954, these balances amounted to less than £1 million in Australia.

For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Period.	Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1936–37	15.4	21.8	37.2
1937–38	16.9	23.6	40.5
1938–39	16.4	23.4	39.8
1945–46	22.3	33.4	55.7
1946–47	24.6	42.2	66.8
1947–48	26.2	53.3	79.5
1948–49	30.3	63.1	93.4
1949–50	38.0	72.2	110.2
1950–51	45.6	94.9	140.5
1951–52	52.0	110.1	162.1
1952–53	46.3	111.8	158.1
1953–54	57.3	122.2	179.5
1954–55	63.9	141.6	205.5
1955–56	66.5	154.8	221.3

Period.	Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)					Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
	10%	12½%	16⅔%	25%	30%			
1955–56—								
March	13.4	33.4	17.0	1.9	5.5	71.2	162.9	234.1
April	11.6	24.6	8.9	4.4	9.3	58.8	159.0	217.8
May	13.0	27.3	10.4	5.0	10.3	66.0	169.4	235.4
June	10.5	24.1	9.5	4.1	8.9	57.1	166.6	223.7
1956–57—								
July	11.2	25.7	9.1	5.0	8.8	59.8	150.5	210.3
August	12.8	29.5	9.3	6.0	9.3	66.9	170.7	237.6
September ..	12.3	28.3	8.7	5.9	9.1	64.3	165.2	229.5
October	14.3	31.9	10.3	7.1	10.7	74.3	180.4	254.7
November ..	15.0	32.7	9.9	7.7	10.6	75.9	184.0	259.9
December ..	14.9	31.6	8.6	7.2	9.1	71.4	163.8	235.2
January r ..	10.1	25.5	6.7	4.4	8.0	54.7	154.5	209.2
February (b) r ..	10.5	27.3	8.8	5.3	9.2	61.1	164.7	225.8
March (b) ..	12.2	27.8	9.2	6.0	9.8	65.0	169.6	234.6

(a) On 15th March, 1956, the special rates of 25 per cent. and 30 per cent. were imposed. (b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

For meaning of symbol r *see* page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE: ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—								Fuels and Lubricants. (d)		Auxiliary Aids to Production. (e)		Munitions and War Stores.	
	Building and Construction.		Rural Industries.		Manufacturing. Motor Vehicle Assembly. ab		Manufacturing. Other. (c)		Total. (c)					
	Class Ia.		Class Ib.		Class Ic (5).		Class Ic (1–4).		Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class VII.	
		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
Monthly Average—																
1936–37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	(f)	(f)	3,269	38.0	3,759	43.7	621	7.2	415	4.8	31	0.4
1937–38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5			4,094	38.6	4,721	44.5	784	7.4	480	4.5	36	0.3
1938–39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8			3,448	36.5	4,004	42.4	736	7.8	476	5.1	88	0.9
1949–50 ..	2,026	4.5	431	1.0	(f)	(f)	13,572	30.4	16,029	35.9	3,852	8.6	2,423	5.4	129	0.3
1950–51 ..	3,408	5.5	415	0.7			22,231	36.0	26,054	42.2	5,032	8.1	2,929	4.7	94	0.2
1951–52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6			32,889	37.6	38,305	43.8	5,902	6.8	5,458	6.2	1,132	1.3
1952–53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9			14,228	33.4	16,078	37.8	5,313	12.5	1,951	4.6	755	1.8
1953–54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8			19,548	34.6	21,935	38.8	5,633	10.0	1,995	3.5	351	0.6
1954–55 ..	3,044	4.3	517	0.7			25,691	36.7	29,252	41.7	4,790	6.9	2,503	3.6	728	0.9
1955–56 ..	2,567	3.8	550	0.8	5,672	8.3	25,665	37.7	g34,454	50.6	3,889	5.7	2,357	3.4	1,071	1.6
Monthly Total—																
1954–55—																
May ..	3,216	4.1	421	0.5	(f)	(f)	29,662	37.6	33,299	42.2	4,820	6.1	3,187	4.1	1,817	2.3
June ..	3,282	4.4	459	0.6			27,816	37.2	31,557	42.2	3,738	5.0	2,646	3.6	2,310	3.0
1955–56—									(g)							
July ..	2,819	4.6	650	1.0	4,421	7.2	23,176	37.7	31,066	50.5	5,110	8.3	3,218	5.2	819	1.3
August ..	3,035	4.3	695	1.0	5,524	7.7	26,569	37.3	35,823	50.3	5,792	8.1	2,098	3.0	1,418	2.0
September	2,786	3.7	564	0.8	6,566	8.7	26,122	34.9	36,038	48.1	3,752	5.0	3,551	4.7	860	1.2
October ..	2,749	4.0	470	0.7	4,587	6.7	26,365	38.7	34,171	50.1	4,816	7.1	2,232	3.3	733	1.1
November	3,084	4.2	326	0.4	5,933	8.1	27,732	37.8	37,075	50.5	2,863	3.9	2,371	3.2	815	1.1
December	2,603	4.1	679	1.1	4,954	7.8	24,205	38.4	32,441	51.4	3,571	5.6	1,944	3.1	960	1.5
January(h)	2,446	3.8	483	0.8	5,241	8.3	23,944	37.7	32,114	50.6	3,811	6.0	1,661	2.6	876	1.4
February(h)	1,905	3.2	412	0.7	5,076	8.6	23,858	40.4	31,251	52.9	2,971	5.0	2,028	3.4	839	1.4
March(h)..	2,597	3.2	520	0.6	8,028	10.0	29,917	37.2	41,062	51.0	3,364	4.2	2,553	3.1	1,515	1.9
April ..	2,452	3.6	424	0.6	5,838	8.6	25,566	37.6	34,280	50.4	3,255	4.8	2,395	3.5	822	1.2
May ..	2,456	3.4	934	1.3	6,085	8.5	26,112	36.5	35,587	49.7	4,258	6.0	2,731	3.8	2,356	3.3
June ..	1,866	2.9	441	0.7	5,817	9.2	24,407	38.5	32,531	51.3	3,104	4.9	1,507	2.4	840	1.3
1956–57 p—																
July ..	1,997	3.5	521	0.9	4,799	8.4	22,717	39.6	30,034	52.4	1,955	3.4	2,443	4.3	243	0.4
August ..	2,683	3.4	631	0.8	7,486	9.5	29,679	37.7	40,479	51.4	2,826	3.6	3,116	4.0	1,581	2.0
September	2,298	4.3	652	1.2	3,915	7.3	20,316	37.9	27,181	50.7	2,602	4.8	1,948	3.6	698	1.3
October ..	2,166	3.8	648	1.1	4,443	7.8	22,202	38.9	29,459	51.6	2,704	4.7	2,293	4.0	1,108	1.9
November	2,352	4.0	591	1.0	4,827	8.1	23,840	39.9	31,610	53.0	3,208	5.4	1,819	3.0	727	1.2
December	2,021	3.9	490	1.0	2,970	5.7	22,046	42.4	27,527	53.0	1,789	3.4	2,203	4.2	523	1.0
January ..	2,440	3.9	432	0.7	3,022	4.8	27,719	44.2	33,613	53.6	2,274	3.6	1,935	3.1	918	1.5
February..	1,407	2.8	406	0.8	3,067	6.0	22,742	44.6	27,622	54.2	2,017	4.0	1,996	4.0	739	1.5
March ..	1,818	3.1	611	1.0	3,853	6.6	23,920	40.8	30,202	51.5	1,970	3.4	2,019	3.4	682	1.2
April ..	1,999	3.3	570	0.9	3,947	6.5	25,282	41.5	31,798	52.2	2,525	4.1	2,576	4.2	431	0.7

(a) Owing to insufficient information it is not possible to treat unassembled tractors and other machinery in a similar manner to motor vehicles and all such machinery is treated as capital equipment whether imported in an assembled or unassembled condition. (b) Includes replacement parts. (c) Excludes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail and paper to be used solely for wrapping which are now recorded in classes VI E–J and III. respectively. Prior to issue No. 227 these goods were recorded in classes VI E–J and III. only for those periods subsequent to June, 1956. (d) Excludes crude petroleum which is included in class Ic (1–4). (e) Includes a percentage for paper used solely for wrapping, *see* note (c). (f) Included in class Vb. (g) Prior to July, 1955 excludes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class IC (5). (h) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —— *see* page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—*continued.*

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment. Complete Road Vehicles and Assembled Chassis.		Transport Equipment. Railway Equipment Vessels and Civil Aircraft.		Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other. (a)		Total. (a)	
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E–J.		Class VI.	
		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
Monthly Average—														
1936–37 ..	884	*10.3*	872	*10.1*	146	*1.7*	516	*6.0*	46	*0.5*	1,316	*15.3*	1,878	*21.8*
1937–38 ..	1,149	*10.8*	1,161	*11.0*	205	*1.9*	531	*5.0*	68	*0.6*	1,480	*14.0*	2,079	*19.6*
1938–39 ..	1,104	*11.7*	899	*9.5*	119	*1.3*	564	*6.0*	84	*0.9*	1,361	*14.4*	2,009	*21.3*
1949–50 ..	5,297	*11.9*	8,643	*19.3*	497	*1.1*	2,163	*4.9*	578	*1.3*	5,066	*11.3*	7,807	*17.5*
1950–51 ..	6,679	*10.8*	9,245	*15.0*	1,137	*1.8*	2,873	*4.7*	745	*1.2*	6,993	*11.3*	10,611	*17.2*
1951–52 ..	9,960	*11.4*	10,942	*12.5*	1,661	*1.9*	3,074	*3.5*	1,149	*1.3*	9,896	*11.3*	14,119	*16.1*
1952–53 ..	8,409	*19.8*	3,569	*8.3*	1,703	*4.0*	1,917	*4.5*	130	*0.3*	2,704	*6.4*	4,751	*11.2*
1953–54 ..	9,474	*16.8*	5,769	*10.2*	1,552	*2.7*	2,658	*4.7*	446	*0.8*	6,736	*11.9*	9,840	*17.4*
1954–55 ..	10,289	*14.8*	7,377	*10.5*	1,824	*2.6*	3,236	*4.6*	614	*0.9*	9,468	*13.5*	13,318	*19.0*
1955–56 ..	11,174	*16.4*	(b)1,784	*2.6*	1,841	*2.7*	2,276	*3.3*	491	*0.7*	8,854	*13.0*	11,621	*17.0*
Monthly Total—														
1954–55—														
May ..	11,363	*14.4*	9,185	*11.7*	1,681	*2.1*	2,675	*3.4*	412	*0.5*	r10,420	*13.2*	13,507	*17.1*
June ..	11,623	*15.6*	8,931	*12.0*	1,157	*1.5*	2,548	*3.4*	408	*0.6*	9,792	*13.1*	12,748	*17.1*
1955–56—			(b)											
July ..	8,657	*14.1*	1,586	*2.6*	1,897	*3.1*	1,219	*2.0*	403	*0.6*	r7,554	*12.3*	r9,176	*14.9*
August ..	9,779	*13.7*	1,750	*2.5*	2,209	*3.1*	1,776	*2.5*	521	*0.7*	10,002	*14.1*	12,299	*17.3*
September	12,573	*16.8*	2,042	*2.7*	1,546	*2.1*	2,822	*3.8*	572	*0.7*	11,138	*14.9*	14,532	*19.4*
October..	10,298	*15.1*	1,623	*2.4*	1,388	*2.0*	2,713	*4.0*	596	*0.9*	9,569	*14.0*	12,878	*18.9*
November	12,913	*17.6*	2,230	*3.1*	1,459	*2.0*	2,885	*3.9*	474	*0.7*	10,286	*14.0*	13,645	*18.6*
December	10,932	*17.3*	1,695	*2.7*	1,151	*1.8*	2,418	*3.8*	386	*0.6*	7,697	*12.2*	10,501	*16.6*
January(c)	10,566	*16.7*	2,126	*3.4*	1,337	*2.1*	2,116	*3.3*	522	*0.8*	8,304	*13.1*	10,942	*17.2*
February(c)	10,076	*17.1*	1,581	*2.7*	1,479	*2.5*	1,575	*2.7*	535	*0.9*	6,795	*11.4*	8,905	*15.0*
March(c)	13,354	*16.6*	2,064	*2.6*	3,096	*3.8*	3,126	*3.9*	766	*1.0*	r9,632	*11.9*	r13,524	*16.8*
April ..	11,971	*17.6*	1,449	*2.2*	2,268	*3.3*	2,846	*4.2*	475	*0.7*	r8,203	*12.1*	r11,524	*17.0*
May ..	12,253	*17.1*	1,515	*2.1*	1,625	*2.3*	1,849	*2.6*	357	*0.5*	r9,036	*12.6*	r11,242	*15.7*
June ..	10,711	*16.9*	1,750	*2.8*	2,641	*4.2*	1,961	*3.1*	285	*0.4*	r8,041	*12.7*	r10,287	*16.2*
1956–57 p—														
July ..	9,735	*17.0*	1,119	*1.9*	2,282	*4.0*	2,233	*3.9*	212	*0.4*	r7,040	*12.3*	r9,485	*16.6*
August ..	13,676	*17.3*	1,578	*2.0*	1,547	*2.0*	2,807	*3.6*	502	*0.6*	10,661	*13.5*	13,970	*17.7*
September	8,542	*15.9*	1,121	*2.1*	2,473	*4.6*	2,139	*4.0*	264	*0.5*	6,721	*12.5*	9,124	*17.0*
October..	8,822	*15.5*	845	*1.5*	1,841	*3.2*	2,054	*3.6*	370	*0.7*	7,593	*13.3*	10,017	*17.6*
November	9,975	*16.7*	970	*1.7*	1,270	*2.1*	2,102	*3.5*	267	*0.4*	7,741	*13.0*	10,110	*16.9*
December	8,220	*15.8*	771	*1.5*	1,783	*3.4*	2,039	*3.9*	192	*0.4*	7,022	*13.4*	9,253	*17.7*
January ..	10,290	*16.4*	823	*1.3*	1,297	*2.1*	3,468	*5.5*	302	*0.5*	7,735	*12.4*	11,505	*18.4*
February	8,762	*17.2*	862	*1.7*	982	*1.9*	2,313	*4.5*	241	*0.5*	5,346	*10.5*	r7,900	*15.5*
March ..	10,952	*18.7*	793	*1.3*	1,793	*3.1*	2,876	*4.9*	306	*0.5*	7,016	*12.0*	10,198	*17.4*
April ..	10,678	*17.6*	736	*1.2*	1,739	*2.9*	2,813	*4.6*	297	*0.5*	7,277	*12.0*	10,387	*17.1*

(*a*) Includes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail, *see* note (c), page 18. (*b*) Prior to July, 1955 includes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in Class 1c.
(*c*) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r,———, *see* page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE: DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.) (a)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.) (b)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Monthly Average—										
1936–37 ..	1,024	373	2,362	45	303	1,530	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937–38 ..	1,241	449	3,031	48	300	1,731	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938–39 ..	1,100	351	2,553	55	309	1,645	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1949–50 ..	3,916	1,777	10,336	180	1,277	6,350	4,096	7,851	32,730	44,677
1950–51 ..	7,007	3,178	15,869	273	1,600	8,738	7,280	10,954	43,547	61,781
1951–52 ..	7,788	4,788	25,729	359	1,446	12,314	8,147	13,933	65,399	87,479
1952–53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,171	251	1,182	3,318	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953–54 ..	6,260	3,189	12,486	385	1,471	7,984	6,645	11,384	38,520	56,549
1954–55 ..	8,818	4,986	15,448	428	2,082	10,808	9,246	13,167	47,668	70,081
1955–56 ..	10,095	4,557	19,802	423	1,191	r10,007	10,518	10,913	46,760	68,191
Monthly Total—										
1954–55—										
May ..	10,206	6,243	16,850	383	1,719	11,404	10,589	14,196	r54,074	r78,859
June ..	9,789	5,091	16,677	605	1,108	11,035	10,394	11,333	52,983	74,710
1955–56—			(c)			r				
July ..	9,709	3,716	17,641	238	361	8,578	9,947	10,226	r41,356	r61,529
August ..	10,834	4,287	20,702	515	450	11,334	11,349	11,750	48,069	71,168
September ..	8,169	4,650	23,219	348	1,646	12,538	8,517	11,503	54,874	74,894
October ..	8,226	5,623	20,322	341	1,638	10,899	8,567	13,324	46,248	68,139
November ..	10,787	4,675	21,613	571	1,473	11,601	11,358	10,384	51,629	73,371
December ..	10,549	4,241	17,651	233	1,450	8,818	10,782	10,481	41,932	63,195
January(d) ..	9,441	4,241	18,432	615	759	9,568	10,056	9,975	43,402	63,433
February(d) ..	10,492	4,259	16,500	221	930	7,754	10,713	9,268	39,149	59,130
March(d) ..	13,331	4,719	23,012	676	1,744	11,103	14,007	11,392	r55,133	r80,532
April ..	10,066	5,007	19,207	547	1,705	9,273	10,613	11,279	r46,072	r67,964
May ..	10,215	4,671	20,701	382	1,048	9,813	10,597	11,383	r49,587	r71,567
June ..	9,322	4,594	r18,615	384	1,083	8,810	9,706	9,993	r43,672	r63,371
1956–57 p—									r	r
July ..	9,236	4,385	16,413	385	1,459	7,641	9,621	8,847	38,828	57,296
August ..	10,031	6,516	23,932	404	1,905	11,661	10,435	12,791	55,547	78,773
September ..	8,996	4,177	14,008	548	1,250	7,326	9,544	9,052	35,093	53,689
October ..	10,095	4,279	15,085	426	1,038	8,553	10,521	9,046	37,522	57,089
November ..	11,398	3,832	16,380	354	1,240	8,516	11,752	9,401	38,536	59,689
December ..	10,858	3,657	13,012	613	1,071	7,569	11,471	7,409	33,189	52,069
January ..	12,274	5,120	16,219	572	2,314	8,619	12,846	10,798	39,011	62,655
February ..	10,511	4,162	12,949	405	1,544	6,155	10,916	8,599	31,365	50,880
March ..	10,671	4,467	15,064	687	1,755	7,504	11,358	9,233	38,018	58,609
April ..	10,220	5,443	16,135	572	1,760	8,055	10,792	10,835	39,243	60,870

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods " simply transformed ", and Classes IV., V. and VII, entirely of goods " more elaborately transformed ". Class III. is about equally divided between goods " simply " and " more elaborately " transformed.

(a) *See* note (c) page 18. (b) *See* note (a) page 19. (c) *See* note (g) page 18. (d) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r,———, *see* page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Meats.	Butter.	Wheat and Flour.	Fresh Fruits.	Dried Fruits.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Hides and Skins.	Wool.	Lead.	Total Exports of Merchandise.
Monthly Average—										
1936–37.. ..	861	734	2,029	165	172	309	609	5,209	402	12,316
1937–38.. ..	1,021	898	2,245	171	224	336	516	3,915	409	11,719
1938–39.. ..	982	1,074	1,106	169	239	348	342	3,561	356	10,128
1949–50.. ..	(a)2,854	2,056	7,376	328	241	1,185	1,263	26,096	1,416	50,971
1950–51.. ..	2,533	1,539	8,921	477	389	1,240	2,272	52,779	1,796	81,591
1951–52.. ..	2,957	383	7,359	572	472	586	1,428	26,953	2,156	55,437
1952–53.. ..	5,481	1,675	7,449	791	669	1,805	1,677	33,576	2,116	70,708
1953–54.. ..	4,816	1,338	5,053	774	617	2,639	1,620	34,202	2,004	67,655
1954–55.. ..	5,290	2,049	5,461	731	703	2,604	1,642	29,426	2,070	63,170
1955–56.. ..	5,039	2,414	5,513	761	650	2,070	1,747	28,127	2,106	64,236
Monthly Total—										
1954–55—										
May	4,568	2,658	5,701	2,448	944	1,619	1,936	29,030	1,494	66,840
June	3,868	2,994	5,806	1,617	1,334	919	1,396	32,743	2,496	68,984
1955–56—										
July	4,605	1,504	4,473	588	1,482	1,183	1,637	26,899	2,201	r60,885
August ..	5,590	1,376	5,653	308	1,004	2,111	2,259	11,262	2,376	48,732
September ..	4,863	1,068	4,569	122	958	3,267	1,988	17,512	2,896	51,434
October ..	6,478	3,399	4,582	143	211	2,267	1,668	30,488	1,799	65,616
November ..	8,328	3,689	5,519	195	125	3,695	1,943	37,941	2,666	r77,947
December ..	7,777	4,232	3,823	55	534	1,608	2,132	37,007	2,034	72,422
January(b) ..	5,085	3,224	4,906	19	131	1,471	1,556	23,395	1,379	55,449
February(b) ..	995	106	2,754	50	14	1,033	456	8,231	283	r19,985
March(b) ..	3,601	3,203	8,387	713	79	1,955	2,211	40,136	2,147	77,537
April	4,594	2,416	5,848	1,987	972	2,886	1,713	34,622	2,651	b78,031
May	4,501	2,345	7,041	3,510	1,258	2,510	2,008	40,134	2,858	b89,937
June	4,045	2,406	8,596	1,450	1,036	856	1,375	29,902	1,659	b72,862
1956–57 p—						r				r
July	3,612	1,623	7,333	316	553	715	1,399	27,688	1,809	60,920
August ..	4,174	2,196	7,608	241	533	2,356	1,946	16,192	3,333	57,269
September ..	4,618	1,821	8,139	106	588	3,135	1,829	21,379	2,078	60,096
October ..	4,448	3,708	8,758	334	444	3,778	2,220	45,472	4,201	95,308
November ..	4,345	2,967	8,527	156	114	4,641	2,130	48,199	2,899	93,563
December ..	3,823	2,691	r6,158	42	102	2,532	1,893	41,771	2,316	75,995
January ..	r4,232	4,979	r8,586	35	8	2,129	1,787	r42,803	2,320	87,699
February ..	r4,264	2,195	r5,534	138	44	4,417	2,073	r48,223	3,630	89,349
March ..	3,565	1,177	7,873	727	17	1,719	1,824	58,532	2,041	97,938
April	2,870	765	4,924	2,406	506	1,891	2,350	50,401	2,018	87,928
May	4,944	1,306	4,146	3,383	2,348	826	2,288	43,822	1,708	90,726

(a) Figures for 1936–37 to 1938–39 include soups (1949–50 monthly average exports £59,500). (b) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, ———, *see* page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. The index numbers show price changes in the predominant market or markets for each commodity. (Average prices realized for exports are used for some markets.)

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX: FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the weights are the average annual exports of each commodity (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933–34 to 1935–36.

(Base of each Group: Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Metals. (a)	Meats. (b)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (c)	Tallow.	Hides. (d)	Gold. (e)	All Groups. Excl. Gold.	All Groups. Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate (f)	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate (g)	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936–37 ..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116	115
1937–38 ..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102	102
1938–39 ..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82	83
1949–50 ..	473	400	250	421	196	369	176	400	479	164	399	383
1950–51 ..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690	654
1951–52 ..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495	473
1952–53 ..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505	483
1953–54 ..	615	411	325	450	338	479	287	321	336	179	496	471
1954–55 ..	538	357	313	511	344	445	267	349	218	178	450	437
1955–56 ..	464	324	320	562	355	451	286	353	238	178	414	394
1954–55—												
May ..	520	354	313	520	332	434	268	345	216	178	441	422
June ..	505	355	313	528	343	434	279	342	212	178	435	417
1955–56—												
July ..	(h) 505	352	313	538	359	468	266	342	225	178	437	419
August ..	453	351	313	538	365	468	266	341	234	178	411	395
September ..	437	334	313	545	398	468	278	344	235	178	404	388
October ..	437	329	337	543	408	454	282	351	238	178	406	390
November ..	437	323	364	549	383	454	284	366	227	178	407	391
December ..	453	315	368	575	364	454	283	365	232	178	414	398
January ..	460	313	361	590	348	441	285	356	239	178	416	400
February ..	460	311	328	592	331	441	288	364	240	178	411	395
March ..	453	312	304	592	322	441	292	364	247	178	404	388
April ..	468	310	273	579	317	441	293	354	248	178	406	390
May ..	498	316	265	556	324	441	302	344	241	178	420	403
June ..	(h)505	317	299	548	335	441	317	347	252	178	428	411
1956–57—												
July ..	490	323	272	549	343	438	320	355	250	178	419	403
August ..	520	326	261	558	347	438	322	352	244	178	434	417
September ..	566	326	284	562	353	438	323	360	243	178	460	441
October ..	551	330	260	559	361	444	323	354	245	178	451	432
November ..	581	328	252	569	357	444	316	352	247	178	465	445
December ..	588	329	242	566	p360	444	315	361	237	178	p467	p447
January ..	p596	p332	227	570	p385	p459	311	359	226	178	p472	p452
February ..	p611	p335	222	557	p388	p459	*h*309	360	234	178	p479	p458
March ..	p596	p327	218	555	p372	p459	p309	p359	248	178	p468	p448
April ..	p618	p321	224	548	p382	p605	*h*p321	p357	234	178	p483	p462
May ..	p626	p319	256	495	p398	p605	p327	p359	238	178	p488	p466

(a) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead. (b) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. Guaranteed minimum prices are used when operative. (c) Sultanas, lexias, currants. (d) Cattle hides, calf skins. (e) Where Australian gold has been sold on the oversea premium markets such price has been used in the index. (f) For all Groups (including Gold)—applicable from 1936–37. (g) For all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936–37. (h) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, *see* page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—*continued.*

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 22 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the effects which movements in prices of the other components have on the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1949–50.			1950–51.			1951–52.			1952–53.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a339	277	305	a592	333	451	a717	400	544	a566	381	465
August	a347	284	313	864	340	579	551	400	468	a566	380	465
September ..	339	292	314	890	355	599	498	400	445	551	379	457
October ..	392	305	345	890	360	602	686	403	532	588	370	469
November ..	419	305	357	965	366	639	603	398	492	588	368	469
December ..	456	307	375	973	366	643	581	403	484	618	376	486
January ..	562	310	425	1,252	368	771	566	402	477	618	376	486
February ..	536	315	416	1,339	369	811	520	402	456	626	371	487
March	524	316	411	1,437	377	860	460	400	427	656	369	500
April	a554	324	429	1,094	384	708	475	397	432	671	363	503
May	611	328	457	973	385	653	543	385	457	701	361	516
June	592	331	450	717	383	535	566	376	463	641	363	490
Average of Year	473	308	383	999	365	654	564	397	473	616	371	483

Period	1953–54.			1954–55.			1955–56.			1956–57.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a641	369	493	a622	338	468	a505	347	419	490	329	403
August	a634	367	488	566	338	442	453	347	395	520	330	417
September ..	626	365	484	566	339	442	437	347	388	566	336	441
October ..	634	363	486	536	344	431	437	351	390	551	333	432
November ..	634	360	485	513	343	421	437	352	391	581	331	445
December ..	611	358	473	532	348	432	453	352	398	588	p329	p447
January ..	603	354	468	520	345	425	460	349	400	p596	p331	p452
February ..	581	350	455	528	342	427	460	340	395	p611	p329	p458
March	581	351	456	528	341	426	453	334	388	p596	p324	p448
April	a596	348	461	520	340	422	468	325	390	p618	p330	p462
May	618	346	470	520	340	422	498	324	403	p626	p332	p466
June	622	346	472	505	343	417	a505	332	411			
Average of Year	615	356	474	538	342	431	464	342	397			

(*a*) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are :—

All Groups.	Month of May.		Eleven months ended May.	
	1956.	1957.	1956.	1957.
Excluding Wool	100	98	100	98
Including Wool	100	117	100	118

For meaning of symbol p, *see* page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX.

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have, in the main, been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants. With a few important exceptions they are from Melbourne sources. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928–29 to 1934–35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of three years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco. (c)	Basic Materials & Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal. (a)	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemi-cals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Mater-ials.	Total.		Goods prin-cipally Imported. (b)	Goods prin-cipally Home Produced. (c)	Total All Groups. (c)
1936–37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	98	99	98	99
1937–38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	102	102	101	101
1938–39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	101	99	100	100
1949–50 ..	214	184	434	187	143	225	214	196	223	196	204
1950–51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	229	256	240	244
1951–52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	276	288	300	297
1952–53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	293	292	331	319
1953–54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	308	271	339	319
1954–55 ..	391	214	510	314	246	372	330	315	277	340	322
1955–56 ..	404	220	456	317	328	415	345	325	292	352	334
1954–55—											
May ..	396	214	497	315	294	389	337	319	283	345	327
June ..	396	214	485	315	306	398	338	323	287	348	330
1955–56—											
July ..	397	214	486	315	307	398	338	329	281	355	333
August ..	397	215	452	315	323	398	337	328	282	353	332
September	405	215	441	315	333	398	340	327	290	351	333
October ..	405	215	441	315	336	398	340	324	289	350	332
November..	404	216	437	317	347	407	342	320	291	346	330
December ..	404	216	447	317	342	407	342	319	291	346	329
January ..	405	216	453	317	330	407	343	320	288	348	330
February ..	405	216	453	317	325	408	343	318	288	346	329
March ..	405	230	446	317	323	425	350	328	299	354	338
April ..	403	230	456	318	326	442	353	328	303	355	339
May ..	410	231	477	317	322	444	357	333	304	361	344
June ..	409	231	482	318	326	444	357	328	299	358	341
1956–57—											
July ..	410	232	461	344	314	444	358	330	301	360	343
August ..	409	240	481	344	315	445	362	329	303	361	344
September..	411	241	513	344	312	467	368	329	309	363	347
October ..	410	241	503	344	306	467	367	325	310	359	344
November..	413	241	522	344	306	467	369	319	314	354	342
December ..	412	241	528	344	307	467	369	321	315	355	343
January ..	412	240	p533	344	307	467	p369	321	316	p354	p343
February ..	409	244	p544	344	298	467	p370	324	318	p356	p345
March ..	407	244	p532	344	296	467	p368	p324	p315	p356	p344
April ..	407	244	p547	344	289	467	p369	pr324	p313	pr358	p344
May ..	p403	244	p548	344	289	467	p367	p317	p311	p352	p340

(a) Special purpose index for the " Metals and Coal " group excluding coal and briquettes was 416 for May, 1957. (b) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in price of all imports. (c) NOTE.—The indexes for " Foodstuffs and Tobacco ", " Goods principally Home Produced " and " Total All Groups " have been reconstructed as from the base period by excluding potatoes and onions. For the months March, 1957, to May, 1957, respectively, indexes comparable with those previously published including potatoes and onions were " Foodstuffs and Tobacco ", 330, r 330 and 320; " Goods principally Home Produced, " 361, r 362 and 354; " Total All Groups ", 347, r 348 and 341.

For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

The items priced and the levels at which they are priced in these indexes vary widely according to the intended purposes of the indexes of the respective countries. For the United Kingdom and France the current indexes are not available on a pre-war base.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia. (e)	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America. (a)	Sweden.	United Kingdom. (b)	United Kingdom. (c)	France.	India.
1936–37 ..	99	96	97	101	104	98	Base : 30th June, 1949 = 100.		Base : 1949 = 100.	Base : 1938-39 (d) = 100.
1937–38 ..	101	102	103	104	101	103				
1938–39 ..	100	102	100	95	95	99				
1951–52 ..	297	243	252	229	213	285	175	128	145	414
1952–53 ..	319	252	269	216	209	278	152	126	141	386
1953–54 ..	319	248	270	214	209	268	143	125	137	397
1954–55 ..	322	249	274	211	208	272	147	127	135	365
1955–56 ..	334	253	283	217	212	290	155	133	139	373
1956–57—										
Aug. ..	344	265	282	222	217	293	156	136	142	419
Sept. ..	347	266	284	222	218	292	157	137	142	420
Oct. ..	344	267	284	222	219	293	155	137	141	418
Nov. ..	342	263	286	221	219	294	159	137	143	428
Dec. ..	343	259	287	223	220	297	162	138	144	429
Jan. ..	p 343	256	287	224	221	298	161	138	145	422
Feb. ..	p 345	257	287	223	221	295	160	138	144	425
Mar. ..	p 344	258	284	223	221	293	159	138	144	421
Apr. ..	p 344	261	284		222		160	139		
May ..	p 340	264			221		160	139		

(a) Current series linked as at January, 1947 to former series to show movement prior to that date. (b) Basic materials (excluding fuel) used in non-food manufacturing industry. (c) All manufactured products other than fuel, food and tobacco. (d) Year ended August, 1939. (e) *See* note (c) page 24.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.	Australia. (d)		New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America.	United Kingdom.
1936–37	97.3		96	97	98	100	Base : 17th June, 1947 =100b
1937–38	99.8		101	101	102	101	
1938–39	102.9		103	102	100	99	
1951–52	233.7		176	182	186	186	131
1952–53	255.0		185	194	184	189	139
1953–54	262.2		195	199	184	190	140
1954–55	264.4		201	204	185	190	146
1955–56	A274.2 B277.4		206	209	186	190	(c) 154
1956–57—							
July	A	B		212	188	194	156
August	283.2	294.6	213	210	189	193	157
September				211	189	194	157
October				211	190	195	158
November	284.9	291.3	213	212	191	195	158
December				212	191	195	159
January				213	191	196	160
February	287.2	287.6	211	213	192	196	160
March				213	192	197	160
April				213	192	197	160

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, *see* notes (b) and (c). (b) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100 ; cannot be linked to former series. (c) New series linked to former series. (d) Indexes in Columns " A " exclude, and those in Columns " B " include, the price movement of potatoes and onions.

For meaning of symbols p, ———, *see* page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been converted arithmetically to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Indexes : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.						Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.		
	Food and Groceries. (a)	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Food, etc., Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series). (a)		Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wage, Adult Males. (a)(b)	
1936–37	963	968	976	996	973		949	976	
1937–38	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998		1,007	1,000	
1938–39	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029		1,044	1,015	
1949–50	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669		1,913	1,146	
1950–51	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906		2,298	1,206	
1951–52	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337		2,806	1,201	
1952–53	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550		3,104	1,217	
1953–54	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622		3,207	1,223	
1954–55	3,098	1,309	3,940	2,145	2,644		3,249	1,229	
1955–56	A 3,265	1,377	3,968	2,230	A 2,742		3,364	A 1,227	
	B 3,354				B 2,774			B 1,213	
1951–52—									
March Quarter	2,751	1,105	3,658	1,905	2,366		2,878	1,216	
June ,,	2,937	1,124	3,789	2,031	2,488		2,946	1,184	
1952–53—									
September Quarter	2,966	1,156	3,808	2,103	2,524		3,054	1,210	
December ,,	2,908	1,181	3,884	2,121	2,530		3,102	1,226	
March ,,	2,943	1,212	3,912	2,134	2,558		3,110	1,216	
June ,,	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586		3,150	1,218	
1953–54—									
September Quarter	3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618		3,195	1,220	
December ,,	3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624		3,206	1,222	
March ,,	3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624		3,213	1,224	
June ,,	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621		3,214	1,226	
1954–55—									
September Quarter	3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618		3,213	1,227	
December ,,	3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631		3,233	1,229	
March ,,	3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649		3,269	1,234	
June ,,	3,169	1,320	3,961	2,157	2,678		3,283	1,226	
1955–56—	A	B			A	B		A	B
September Quarter	3,215	3,265	1,330	3,965	2,169	2,700	2,719	3,299	1,222	1,213
December ,,	3,239	3,308	1,337	3,971	2,218	2,721	2,746	3,345	1,229	1,218
March ,,	3,262	3,348	1,415	3,965	2,227	2,748	2,780	3,371	1,227	1,213
June ,,	3,343	3,495	1,425	3,971	2,305	2,797	2,851	3,439	1,230	1,206
1956–57—										
September Quarter	3,394	3,712	1,436	3,985	2,369	2,832	2,946	3,485	1,230	1,183
December ,,	3,380	3,559	1,446	4,024	2,418	2,849	2,913	3,527	1,238	1,211
March ,,	3,401	3,412	1,465	4,062	2,435	2,872	2,876	3,521	1,226	1,224

(a) Indexes in Columns "A" exclude, and those in Columns "B" include, the price movement of potatoes and onions. (b) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

WAGE RATES AND AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS.

(Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1956 : *March Quarter*—							
Nominal weekly wage rate (*a*) ..	3,489	3,339	3,195	3,175	3,413	3,418	3,371
Average Weekly Hours (*a*) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (*b*)	243/–	235/–	218/–	231/–	236/–	242/–	236/–
State ,, ,, ,, ..	(*c*) 255/–	(*c*) 251/–	(*d*) 229/–	(*b*) 231/–	(*e*) 253/8	(*c*) 259/–	..
1956 : *June Quarter*—							
Nominal weekly wage rate (*a*)	3,538	3,423	3,258	3,290	3,446	3,541	3,439
Average Weekly Hours (*a*) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (*f*)	253/–	245/–	228/–	241/–	246/–	252/–	246/–
State ,, ,, ,, ..	(*c*) 256/–	(*c*) 256/–	(*g*) 233/–	(*f*) 241/–	(*g*) 257/1	(*c*) 268/–	..
1956 : *September Quarter*—							
Nominal weekly wage rate (*a*)	3,588	3,465	3,336	3,291	3,493	3,551	3,485
Average Weekly Hours (*a*) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (*f*)	253/–	245/–	228/–	241/–	246/–	252/–	246/–
State ,, ,, ,, ..	(*c*) 263/–	(*c*)263/–	(*h*) 237/–	(*f*) 241/–	(*h*) 261/6	(*c*) 272/–	..
1956 : *December Quarter*—							
Nominal weekly wage rate(*a*) ..	3,675	3,466	3,387	3,291	3,534	3,551	3,527
Average Weekly Hours (*a*) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (*f*)	253/–	245/–	228/–	241/–	246/–	252/–	246/–
State ,, ,, ,, ..	(*c*) 274/–	(*j*) 263/–	(*i*) 241/–	(*f*) 241/–	(*i*) 265/2	(*j*) 272/–	..
1957 : *March Quarter*—							
Nominal weekly wage rate(*a*) ..	3,647	3,471	3,388	3,291	3,554	3,551	3,521
Average Weekly Hours (*a*) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (*f*)	253/–	245/–	228/–	241/–	246/–	252/–	246/–
State ,, ,, ,, ..	(*c*) 270/–	(*j*) 263/–	(*i*) 241/–	(*f*) 241/–	(*k*) 266/3	(*j*) 272/–	..

(*a*) Index numbers : Base—Weighted Average, Six States Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000. (*b*) Automatic adjustments discontinued. The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay-period commencing August, 1953. (*c*) Automatic adjustments operative. Rates payable as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown. (*d*) Payable as from 24th October, 1955. (*e*) Payable as from 31st January, 1956. (*f*) Payable as from first pay-period in June, 1956. (*g*) Payable as from 23rd April, 1956. (*h*) Payable as from 23rd July, 1956. (*i*) Payable as from 29th October, 1956. (*j*) Automatic adjustment discontinued. Rates shown came into operation from the beginning of the first pay-period in August, 1956. (*k*) Payable as from 25th January, 1957.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index relate to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index relate to the consumption pattern of 1950–53.

(Base of each Group: Year 1952–53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.						
	Food.(a)		Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	Total All Groups.(a)	
Year ended June—	A	B				A	B
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	102.8	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.2	102.5
1955	104.8	104.6	102.4	109.6	101.4	103.7	103.6
1956	108.1	110.6	103.3	115.5	106.4	107.0	108.0
Quarter ended—							
1955—March ..	105.3	105.3	102.4	109.7	101.2	103.8	103.8
June ..	106.0	106.4	103.3	110.5	101.9	104.5	104.7
September ..	106.7	108.2	103.3	111.4	102.8	105.1	105.7
December ..	107.0	109.0	103.4	112.0	106.2	106.3	107.0
1956—March ..	108.2	110.6	103.3	118.8	106.7	107.4	108.3
June ..	110.7	114.5	103.4	119.7	110.1	109.4	110.8
September ..	111.9	119.6	103.8	120.6	115.6	111.5	114.4
December ..	111.6	116.2	105.3	121.5	117.8	112.5	114.2
1957—March ..	112.6	113.2	106.3	123.1	118.5	113.5	113.7

(a) The index in Column "A" excludes, and that in Column "B" includes, potatoes and onions.

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, etc., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946–47 to 1950–51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1955–56 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group: Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936–37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937–38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938–39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1947–48	267	263	183	247	301	230
1948–49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949–50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950–51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951–52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952–53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953–54	324	534	395	429	621	365
1954–55	316	489	371	401	540	355
1955–56	322	442	385	388	468	362

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)						Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	4 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	4 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 34 Miscellaneous).	34 Active shares included in foregoing. (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37	989	1,059	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38	1,012	1,008	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39	999	933	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1951-52	2,040	1,658	1,606	2,625	1,662	1,537	1,838	1,402	1,638
1952-53	1,733	1,376	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54	1,784	1,534	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1954-55	1,943	1,885	1,555	2,184	1,626	1,598	1,695	1,434	1,575
1955-56	2,038	2,178	1,751	2,142	1,726	1,649	1,726	1,475	1,612
1954-55—									
May	2,018	2,005	1,563	2,160	1,682	1,647	1,710	1,410	1,572
June	2,047	2,147	1,699	2,157	1,737	1,666	1,739	1,463	1,612
1955-56—									
July	2,110	2,329	1,855	2,172	1,798	1,731	1,755	1,494	1,635
August	2,117	2,267	1,813	2,223	1,789	1,719	1,809	1,499	1,674
September ..	2,074	2,181	1,771	2,163	1,752	1,687	1,721	1,494	1,617
October ..	2,082	2,160	1,808	2,157	1,753	1,681	1,694	1,468	1,590
November ..	2,044	2,147	1,768	2,133	1,727	1,648	1,699	1,473	1,596
December ..	2,039	2,189	1,780	2,147	1,734	1,655	1,701	1,477	1,598
January ..	2,059	2,235	1,782	2,169	1,746	1,669	1,736	1,489	1,622
February ..	2,043	2,230	1,780	2,159	1,735	1,659	1,746	1,469	1,619
March	2,006	2,169	1,729	2,079	1,700	1,609	1,740	1,480	1,620
April	1,995	2,153	1,679	2,089	1,688	1,599	1,740	1,473	1,618
May	1,972	2,061	1,639	2,098	1,663	1,583	1,709	1,457	1,594
June	1,918	2,010	1,613	2,112	1,632	1,551	1,668	1,428	1,559
1956-57—									
July	1,909	1,973	1,668	2,140	1,626	1,556	1,689	1,431	1,570
August	1,944	2,002	1,718	2,268	1,657	1,608	1,699	1,426	1,574
September ..	1,997	2,004	1,740	2,400	1,689	1,639	1,704	1,447	1,586
October	2,034	2,006	1,797	2,468	1,702	1,652	1,700	1,474	1,597
November ..	2,000	1,963	1,772	2,537	1,682	1,626	1,699	1,461	1,590
December ..	2,008	1,929	1,732	2,506	1,674	1,620	1,682	1,456	1,579
January ..	2,067	1,949	1,829	2,594	1,719	1,678	1,667	1,467	1,575
February ..	2,078	1,974	1,850	2,625	1,743	1,693	1,725	1,473	1,609
March	2,084	1,931	1,825	2,571	1,735	1,671	1,745	1,481	1,624
April	2,088	1,937	1,922	2,567	1,746	1,696			
May	2,080	1,926	1,917	2,564	1,752	1,697			

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician ; converted from original base, par values. The index numbers relate to the prices of ordinary shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange of principal companies (excluding banks) whose business in New South Wales is extensive. The prices of individual shares are unweighted and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made for changes in the capital structure of the companies. Minor revisions were made in the composition of the index in August, 1956. (b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928. (c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.		
		All Groups.				Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.		
	Wool.	Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.	Basic Materials.	Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced. (b)	All Groups. (b)	"C" Series Index.(c)		Interim Index.(d)
										Base : 1952–53 = 100	
1936–37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	99	97.3		
1937–38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	101	101	99.8		
1938–39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	100	100	102.9		
1948–49 ..	365	305	348	332	188	201	172	180	152.8	(Arithmetically converted for comparison.)	
1949–50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	196	204	166.9		
1950–51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	240	244	190.6	74.8	74.9
1951–52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	300	297	233.7	91.7	91.4
1952–53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	319	255.0	100.0	100.0
1953–54 ..	615	356	496	474	332	271	339	319	262.2	102.8	102.5
1954–55 ..	538	342	450	431	330	277	340	322	264.4	103.7	103.6
1955–56 ..	464	342	414	397	345	292	352	334	(e)	(e)	(e)
1954–55—											
April ..	520	340	441	422	335	283	342	324			
May ..	520	340	441	422	337	283	345	327	267.8	105.0	104.7
June ..	505	343	435	417	338	287	348	330			
1955–56—											
July ..	(f)505	347	437	419	338	281	355	333			
August ..	453	347	411	395	337	282	353	332	(e)	(e)	(e)
September	437	347	404	388	340	290	351	333			
October ..	437	351	406	390	340	289	350	332			
November	437	352	407	391	342	291	346	330	(e)	(e)	(e)
December	453	352	414	398	342	291	346	329			
January ..	460	349	416	400	343	288	348	330			
February..	460	340	411	395	343	288	346	329	(e)	(e)	(e)
March ..	453	334	404	388	350	299	354	338			
April ..	468	325	406	390	353	303	355	339			
May ..	498	324	420	403	357	304	361	344	(e)	(e)	(e)
June ..	(f)505	332	428	411	357	299	358	341			
1956–57—											
July ..	490	329	419	403	358	301	360	343			
August ..	520	330	434	417	362	303	361	344	(e)	(e)	(e)
September	566	336	460	441	368	309	363	347			
October ..	551	333	451	432	367	310	359	344			
November	581	331	465	445	369	314	354	342	(e)	(e)	(e)
December	588	p329	p467	p447	369	315	355	343			
January ..	p596	p331	p472	p452	p369	316	p354	p343			
February..	p611	p329	p479	p458	p370	318	p356	p345	(e)	(e)	(e)
March ..	p596	p324	p468	p448	p368	p315	p356	p344			
April ..	p618	p330	p483	p462	p369	p313	pr358	p344			
May ..	p626	p332	p488	p466	p367	p311	p352	p340			

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in price of all imports
(b) *See* note (c) page 24. (c) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (d) *See* note at head of page 28.
(e) For indexes for these periods *see* pages 26 and 28 and Statistical Bulletin No. 499. (f) Nominal.

For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excluding government buildings except as indicated in note (*a*), page 33.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936–37(*a*) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937–38(*a*) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938–39(*a*) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1948–49(*b*) ..	2,621	4,457	110	440	2,731	4,897	680	5,577
1949–50.. ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950–51.. ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951–52.. ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952–53.. ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953–54.. ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,538	2,991	10,285	2,071	12,356
1954–55(*c*) ..	3,673	11,244	378	4,083	4,051	15,327	2,593	17,920
1955–56.. ..	3,362	11,043	339	5,040	3,701	16,083	2,820	18,903
Monthly Total—								
1954–55—								
March ..	3,670	12,064	354	4,235	4,024	16,299	2,608	18,907
April	3,212	10,137	339	4,430	3,551	14,567	2,561	17,128
May	3,725	11,889	451	3,566	4,176	15,455	3,289	18,744
June	3,969	12,577	408	5,731	4,377	18,308	3,000	21,308
1955–56—								
July	3,637	11,394	364	4,143	4,001	15,537	2,701	18,238
August ..	3,904	12,253	389	7,159	4,293	19,412	3,166	22,578
September ..	3,983	12,533	414	4,341	4,397	16,874	2,991	19,865
October ..	3,825	12,120	355	3,604	4,180	15,724	2,473	18,197
November ..	3,758	12,112	324	5,098	4,082	17,210	2,498	19,708
December ..	2,678	8,526	294	5,352	2,972	13,878	2,352	16,230
January ..	2,647	9,010	242	3,380	2,889	12,390	2,284	14,674
February ..	3,171	10,404	332	5,455	3,503	15,859	2,873	18,732
March ..	3,311	11,007	357	6,134	3,668	17,141	3,191	20,332
April	2,815	10,405	297	4,415	3,112	14,820	2,946	17,766
May	3,567	11,757	384	7,201	3,951	18,958	3,424	22,382
June	3,244	10,995	317	4,208	3,561	15,203	2,940	18,143
1956–57—								
July	3,089	10,262	376	5,559	3,465	15,821	2,993	18,814
August ..	3,187	10,818	328	4,057	3,515	14,875	2,899	17,774
September ..	2,833	9,517	292	3,785	3,125	13,302	2,314	15,616
October ..	3,257	11,002	384	4,968	3,641	15,970	3,332	19,302
November ..	3,484	11,254	319	4,290	3,803	15,544	2,674	18,218
December ..	2,260	7,273	276	3,039	2,536	10,312	1,771	12,083
January ..	2,725	9,191	271	4,457	2,996	13,648	2,072	15,720
February ..	3,065	10,435	300	3,733	3,365	14,168	2,195	16,363
March ..	3,203	10,952	377	4,553	3,580	15,505	2,705	18,210

(*a*) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (*b*) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Melbourne. For details *see* November, 1956, issue of this publication. (*c*) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. For details *see* November, 1956, issue of this publication.

For meaning of symbol, ——, *see* page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales.			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government. (b)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Commonwealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Commonwealth and State.	Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note A.	Commonwealth and State.	Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note B.
Monthly Average—									
1936–37 ..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667	62
1937–38 ..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669	78
1938–39 ..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1950–51 ..	4,348	e10,426	(f)8,568	1,964	3,610	(g)4,519	1,428	(e)3,187	(h)2,031
1951–52 ..	3,631	9,700	7,877	1,603	2,679	3,717	960	2,831	1,947
1952–53 ..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906	1,931
1953–54 ..	(i) 4,619	12,356	9,693	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,653	3,890	2,297
1954–55 ..	5,936	j17,920	(j)8,379	2,461	(k)6,340	(k)3,550	1,779	(k)5,598	(k)1,812
1955–56 ..	5,845	18,903	9,033	2,399	6,742	3,364	1,559	6,174	2,239
1954–55—									
March Qtr.	5,873	16,761	7,712	2,451	5,393	3,022	1,478	5,426	1,635
June .. „	7,255	19,060	8,704	3,482	7,199	3,775	2,155	5,988	1,777
1955–56—									
September „	6,681	20,227	10,085	2,767	7,273	3,653	1,146	6,495	3,224
December „	6,415	18,045	8,921	2,681	5,899	3,292	2,164	5,899	1,873
March „	4,398	17,912	7,892	1,156	6,778	3,121	1,500	5,699	1,939
June .. „	5,885	19,431	9,239	2,991	7,016	3,394	1,427	6,604	1,919
1956–57—									
September „	5,705	17,401	8,487	2,923	6,112	3,198	1,382	5,996	1,848
December „	4,713	16,535	8,724	2,264	5,769	2,908	918	5,104	2,084
March „		16,764		2,770	6,299	2,981		5,581	
Monthly Total—									
1956–57—									
August ..	3,872	17,774	n.a.	1,450	6,281	3,234	991	5,710	1,917
September ..	8,555	15,616	n.a.	5,282	5,494	3,146	1,821	5,188	1,775
October ..	5,265	19,302	n.a.	2,931	5,989	3,086	729	6,321	2,739
November ..	4,961	18,218	n.a.	2,484	7,317	2,898	879	4,995	1,987
December ..	3,914	12,083	n.a.	1,378	4,001	2,741	1,145	3,995	1,525
January ..	4,769	15,720	n.a.	1,263	6,290	2,139	2,075	5,169	1,631
February ..	4,946	16,363	n.a.	2,454	6,355	3,627	1,314	5,186	2,029
March ..		18,210	n.a.	4,594	6,253	3,078		6,388	
April ..				2,295	5,672	3,504			
May					8,428				

(a) *See* note (a) on page 33. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details *see* November, 1956, issue of this publication. (f) *See* A and B below and C and F, page 33. (g) *See* A below. (h) *See* B below. (i) *See* note (f), page 33. (j) *See* note (k) this page and note (g), page 33. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in " Other Recorded Areas ". For details *see* November, 1956, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.

B. Includes the Cities of Ballaarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., ———, *see* page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—*continued.*

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government.	Private.(*a*)		Government.(*b*)	Private.(*a*)		Government.	Private.(*a*)		Government.	Private.(*a*)	
	Commonwealth and State.	Brisbane Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note C.	Commonwealth and State.	Adelaide Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note D.	Commonwealth and State.	Perth Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note E.	Commonwealth and State.	Hobart Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. *See* Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936–37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937–38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938–39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1950–51 ..	357	1,106	(*c*)1,061	216	1,174	215	270	1,027	274	113	(*d*) 322	(*e*) 468
1951–52 ..	228	1,426	1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	258	494
1952–53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953–54 ..	(*f*) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	392	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1954–55 ..	489	1,449	1,545	475	2,170	463	570	1,941	535	162	(*g*) 422	(*g*) 474
1955–56 ..	545	1,679	1,669	959	2,403	812	277	1,494	413	106	411	536
1954–55—												
Mar. Qtr.	502	1,614	1,715	179	2,352	465	1,064	1,583	388	199	393	487
June „	447	1,270	1,554	583	2,408	530	464	1,865	572	124	330	496
1955–56—												
Sept. „	465	1,528	1,770	1,872	2,531	496	292	1,959	440	139	441	502
Dec. „	476	1,887	1,566	704	2,324	1,300	297	1,616	410	93	420	480
Mar. „	559	1,364	1,370	772	2,397	493	359	1,233	416	52	441	553
June „	680	1,937	1,972	487	2,362	960	158	1,169	386	142	343	608
1956–57—												
Sept. „	405	1,528	1,544	417	1,878	886	197	1,323	467	381	564	544
Dec. „	277	1,893	2,228	800	1,698	644	224	1,663	424	230	408	436
Mar. „	358	1,200	1,467	479	1,819	614	281	1,437	426	75	428	603
Monthly Total—												
1956–57—												
August ..	221	1,386	1,971	78	1,947	n.a.	265	1,499	454	867	951	576
September ..	517	1,693	913	682	1,503	n.a.	133	1,507	449	120	231	599
October ..	204	2,498	1,952	1,123	1,770	n.a.	250	2,237	495	28	487	619
November ..	226	2,192	1,716	959	1,756	n.a.	231	1,559	452	182	399	362
December ..	400	988	3,018	319	1,567	n.a.	192	1,194	327	480	338	328
January ..	148	1,307	1,262	772	1,371	n.a.	423	1,287	362	88	296	481
February ..	449	1,221	1,782	472	1,708	n.a.	240	1,373	439	17	520	693
March ..	476	1,071	1,357	194	2,379	n.a.	183	1,650	478	120	469	635
April ..	216	1,355	2,461	137	1,664	n.a.	139	1,366	414	188	505	718
May ..		1,822	2,103		2,735	n.a.		1,670	467		491	830

(*a*) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory. (*c*) *See* C below. (*d*) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (*e*) *See* F below. (*f*) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (*g*) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in " Other Recorded Areas ". For details *see* November, 1956, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., ——, *see* page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.(a)	Other.	Total.(a)
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	a27,516	8,014	a35,530	a 22,446	5,251	a 27,697	115,714	61,119	176,833
1950-51	a40,478	14,615	a55,093	a 31,243	6,258	a 37,501	162,399	91,632	254,031
1951-52	44,951	16,224	61,175	43,187	10,876	54,063	187,239	125,534	312,773
1952-53	39,358	13,909	53,267	47,634	18,169	65,803	166,706	115,629	282,335
1953-54	48,471	24,220	72,691	48,580	20,962	69,542	174,515	133,478	307,993
1954-55(b) ..	52,367	33,197	85,564	54,294	24,037	78,331	175,426	171,309	346,735
1955-56	51,915	42,951	94,866	54,859	33,142	88,001	174,463	220,426	394,889
Quarterly Total—									
1954-55—									
March Qtr. ..	50,072	37,327	87,399	49,595	22,435	72,030	177,795	162,446	340,241
June „ ..	53,751	36,470	90,221	57,804	26,469	84,273	175,426	171,309	346,735
1955-56—									
Sept. „ ..	56,433	44,004	100,437	54,634	29,865	84,499	179,476	189,730	369,206
Dec. „ ..	52,052	39,034	91,086	58,264	34,978	93,242	175,784	194,779	370,563
March „ ..	50,720	45,243	95,963	51,115	32,277	83,392	177,170	209,904	387,074
June „ ..	48,456	43,523	91,979	55,423	35,448	90,871	174,463	220,426	394,889
1956-57—									
Sept. „ ..	50,346	47,362	97,708	51,600	36,795	88,395	172,891	233,897	406,788
Dec. „ ..	49,867	36,077	85,944	52,809	36,681	89,490	171,905	234,454	406,359
March „ ..	50,769	37,828	88,597	46,483	41,843	88,326	176,748	232,249	408,997

(a) Partly estimated. (b) From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1949-50	(a)10,230	8,671	3,488	2,268	1,338	1,336	366	n.a.	(a)27,697
1950-51	(a)12,367	13,035	4,322	3,010	2,237	2,101	429	n.a.	(a)37,501
1951-52	19,052	17,231	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	n.a.	54,063
1952-53	24,512	19,148	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	n.a.	65,803
1953-54	25,386	21,312	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	n.a.	69,542
1954-55	27,674	24,471	7,079	6,770	8,524	2,665	735	413	78,331
1955-56	31,035	27,733	7,630	8,429	8,419	3,199	1,072	484	88,001
Quarterly Total—									
1954-55—									
March Qtr. ..	24,403	23,106	6,620	5,935	8,334	2,730	373	529	72,030
June „ ..	29,338	26,525	8,371	6,439	9,660	2,726	835	379	84,273
1955-56—									
Sept. „ ..	30,397	24,476	7,413	7,528	9,546	3,469	1,220	450	84,499
Dec. „ ..	33,254	29,725	8,598	8,219	9,050	2,861	964	571	93,242
Mar. „ ..	27,387	28,933	6,503	7,941	7,574	3,535	1,102	417	83,392
June „ ..	33,100	27,798	8,005	10,029	7,508	2,933	1,001	497	90,871
1956-57—									
Sept. „ ..	31,805	28,954	8,553	7,901	6,485	2,930	1,073	694	88,395
Dec. „ ..	30,197	29,111	8,406	8,958	5,954	3,030	3,091	743	89,490
Mar. „ ..	35,794	25,730	8,655	8,588	5,107	3,214	889	349	88,326

(a) Partly estimated.
For meaning of symbols n.a., ———, *see* page 1.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES.

(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
COMMENCED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1949–50	(a)5,514	4,911	2,502	1,527	1,258	916	97	n.a.	(a)16,725
1950–51	(a)6,292	6,737	2,675	1,991	1,742	1,030	219	n.a.	(a)20,686
1951–52	6,091	5,877	2,999	2,128	1,932	896	78	n.a.	20,001
1952–53	5,258	4,064	2,345	1,992	1,753	571	132	n.a.	16,115
1953–54	7,099	5,229	2,128	1,698	1,902	666	89	n.a.	18,811
1954–55	6,375	5,668	1,946	1,797	2,144	718	160	62	18,870
1955–56	6,109	5,314	1,793	2,094	1,584	622	125	85	17,726
Quarterly Total—									
1954–55—Mar. Qtr.	5,918	5,447	1,770	1,799	1,791	796	202	66	17,789
June „	6,255	5,593	1,935	1,993	2,035	655	211	85	18,762
1955–56—Sept. „	6,849	5,529	1,950	2,348	1,919	586	222	88	19,491
Dec. „	6,281	5,230	1,790	2,121	1,715	648	115	70	17,970
Mar. „	5,671	5,584	1,692	2,001	1,417	592	111	71	17,139
June „	5,636	4,902	1,741	1,907	1,285	664	51	112	16,298
1956–57—Sept. „	5,904	4,843	2,214	1,742	1,173	510	100	103	16,589
Dec. „	5,811	4,812	2,129	1,813	1,252	610	99	82	16,608
Mar. „	6,000	4,923	1,717	1,537	1,601	730	157	28	16,693
COMPLETED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1949–50	(a)4,692	3,902	2,362	1,226	877	713	101	n.a.	(a)13,873
1950–51	(a)4,943	5,298	2,569	1,680	1,290	979	144	n.a.	(a)16,903
1951–52	5,837	6,022	2,951	1,928	1,644	1,000	146	n.a.	19,528
1952–53	6,222	5,310	2,650	2,235	1,991	829	147	n.a.	19,384
1953–54	6,628	5,398	2,240	1,881	1,907	658	138	n.a.	18,850
1954–55	7,221	5,960	1,981	1,831	2,198	620	99	50	19,960
1955–56	6,593	5,663	1,849	1,930	1,940	680	151	78	18,884
Quarterly Total—									
1954–55—Mar. Qtr.	6,418	5,526	1,998	1,600	1,874	558	67	32	18,073
June „	7,489	6,090	2,093	1,779	2,608	626	90	80	20,855
1955–56—Sept. „	7,000	5,679	1,981	1,903	1,951	579	132	76	19,301
Dec. „	6,506	6,341	1,923	2,000	2,339	715	156	80	20,060
Mar. „	5,991	5,298	1,668	1,837	1,684	704	149	76	17,407
June „	6,872	5,334	1,824	1,981	1,786	723	168	80	18,768
1956–57—Sept. „	5,334	5,470	1,715	1,846	1,281	778	175	99	16,698
Dec. „	5,557	5,346	1,945	2,009	1,296	780	225	86	17,244
Mar. „	5,573	4,480	1,711	1,629	1,021	529	76	53	15,072
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.(b)									
1949–50	26,402	21,553	4,520	5,241	3,957	3,357	678	n.a.	65,708
1950–51	31,793	27,308	4,943	6,529	5,764	3,558	981	n.a.	80,876
1951–52	32,806	26,726	5,135	7,395	6,917	3,143	708	n.a.	82,830
1952–53	28,946	21,675	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646	n.a.	69,714
1953–54	30,828	20,995	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	69,573
1954–55	27,448	19,827	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	65,359
1955–56	25,516	18,399	3,106	6,252	4,284	2,305	585	240	60,687
1954–55—Mar. Qtr. ..	28,682	20,324	3,487	5,393	6,288	2,507	570	206	67,457
June „ ..	27,448	19,827	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	65,359
1955–56—Sept. „ ..	27,297	19,677	3,298	6,047	5,676	2,543	781	223	65,542
Dec. „ ..	27,072	18,566	3,165	6,165	5,052	2,476	740	213	63,449
Mar. „ ..	26,752	18,844	3,189	6,329	4,785	2,364	702	208	63,173
June „ ..	25,516	18,399	3,106	6,252	4,284	2,305	585	240	60,687
1956–57—Sept. „ ..	26,086	17,772	3,605	6,145	4,176	2,037	510	244	60,575
Dec. „ ..	26,340	17,238	3,789	5,944	4,132	1,867	384	240	59,934
Mar. „ ..	26,767	17,681	3,795	5,823	4,712	2,068	465	215	61,526

(a) Partly estimated. (b) Partly estimated for New South Wales and total.

For meaning of symbols n.a., ———, *see* page 1.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Production). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Underground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gasworks.	Total Electricity Generated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined. (b)	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons. (c)	'000 tons. (c)	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—												
1936–37 ..	976	1	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937–38 ..	988	2	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938–39 ..	1,048	3	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1949–50 ..	1,038	205	1,243	636	71.6	2,908	792	91.5	101.5	6,981	15,784	968
1950–51 ..	1,127	241	1,368	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951–52 ..	1,243	355	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,485
1952–53 ..	1,251	294	1,545	673	86.5	3,439	1,004	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953–54 ..	1,362	257	1,619	728	92.6	3,508	1,142	152.2	176.4	8,263	19,669	1,742
1954–55 ..	1,393	220	1,613	806	90.0	3,622	1,264	155.7	184.1	8,372	19,613	2,533
1955–56 p ..	1,403	183	1,586	865	86.0	3,719	1,399	159.2	194.9	8,659	18,719	2,039
Monthly Total—												
1954–55—												
May ..	1,489	223	1,712	894	87.6	3,988	1,381	147.4	190.0	7,573	21,829	n.a.
June ..	1,485	227	1,712	861	99.7	4,184	1,425	141.8	178.6	8,156	17,938	n.a.
1955–56 p—												
July ..	1,572	207	1,779	898	89.1	4,473	1,491	157.7	195.8	8,793	17,697	n.a.
August ..	1,656	252	1,908	926	80.6	4,269	1,470	145.3	197.7	8,994	21,218	n.a.
September	1,578	223	1,801	904	87.5	3,819	1,376	136.7	189.1	8,804	20,722	n.a.
October ..	1,490	191	1,681	889	88.4	3,692	1,369	147.7	194.2	9,023	20,057	n.a.
November	1,541	196	1,737	869	93.5	3,493	1,358	162.1	192.2	8,872	17,310	n.a.
December	1,225	121	1,346	785	97.5	3,339	1,300	166.1	192.7	9,037	15,061	n.a.
January	747	96	843	813	81.6	3,201	1,263	169.3	197.5	8,685	20,991	n.a.
February	1,298	149	1,447	787	77.3	3,085	1,299	163.2	192.7	8,025	17,342	n.a.
March ..	1,308	171	1,479	839	78.3	3,350	1,389	172.2	202.3	8,527	17,616	n.a.
April ..	1,359	188	1,547	838	77.5	3,506	1,356	167.3	187.6	8,373	17,158	n.a.
May ..	1,566	208	1,774	928	87.8	4,061	1,545	180.3	218.2	8,844	17,732	n.a.
June ..	1,496	195	1,691	907	93.5	4,341	1,565	171.8	217.0	7,927	17,886	n.a.
1956–57 p—												
July ..	1,642	210	1,852	968	93.7	4,654	1,655	179.4	230.3	9,728	24,402	n.a.
August ..	1,717	213	1,930	983	84.2	4,526	1,652	152.1	206.6	8,906	21,041	n.a.
September	1,521	182	1,703	930	90.7	4,078	1,500	178.4	228.6	8,785	20,831	n.a.
October ..	1,721	188	1,909	951	86.8	3,960	1,538	158.0	226.5	9,052	21,363	n.a.
November	1,648	196	1,844	892	96.4	3,679	1,486	187.7	247.7	8,776	20,547	n.a.
December	1,133	142	1,275	723	83.2	3,421	1,394	193.4	247.0	r9,365	19,838	n.a.
January ..	975	110	1,085	833	84.3	3,279	1,410	189.9	260.4	9,077	18,732	1,366
February	1,475	148	1,623	838	80.5	3,158	1,388	170.9	237.5	8,152	17,118	3,555
March ..	1,452	156	1,608	894	88.5	3,584	1,543	174.4	254.5	9,030	18,024	3,498
April ..	1,358	158	1,516	888	90.6	3,604	1,421	168.1	246.9	8,962	17,188	3,288
May ..				967				173.3	250.5	9,229	21,253	2,734

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (b) Source: Bureau of Mineral Resources and Australian Mines and Metals Association. (c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, *see* page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Clay Bricks.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber. (a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas.(b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra-cotta.	Cement.								
	Million.	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Monthly Average—											
1936–37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937–38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938–39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1949–50 ..	50.3	3,785	3,387	1,529	101.9	97.3	1,105	5,155	3,892	2,865	13,528
1950–51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951–52 ..	60.0	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952–53 ..	55.6	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953–54 ..	66.8	5,315	3,721	2,174	116.7	141.7	1,349	4,198	3,587	3,098	22,874
1954–55 ..	69.9	5,328	4,477	2,340	120.8	160.0	1,482	4,147	4,897	3,929	23,381
1955–56 p ..	69.1	5,383	4,424	2,283	121.2	167.9	1,425	3,825	4,505	3,872	20,664
Monthly Total—											
1954–55—											
May ..	74.4	5,555	4,543	2,193	124.8	169.3	1,574	4,078	5,390	4,485	13,218
June ..	70.5	5,559	4,662	2,361	132.0	168.2	1,519	4,138	5,205	4,259	12,707
1955–56 p—							(e)				
July ..	72.5	5,401	4,707	2,811	126.7	164.5	1,489	4,342	6,514	4,828	13,329
August ..	79.3	6,137	4,932	2,318	132.4	170.3	1,625	5,116	7,662	4,589	19,848
September	76.1	5,751	5,014	2,254	139.6	173.0	1,556	4,496	6,283	4,070	26,195
October..	75.3	6,148	4,795	2,622	127.4	175.3	1,522	3,877	5,542	3,848	33,207
November	77.9	6,101	4,971	2,476	134.9	190.9	1,610	3,978	5,370	4,302	34,814
December	60.0	4,545	3,936	2,014	135.9	155.4	1,166	2,878	3,452	3,121	27,670
January ..	52.3	3,801	3,339	1,340	91.9	135.4	1,034	2,479	3,017	2,842	19,604
February	66.8	5,445	4,390	2,236	111.7	152.4	1,473	3,790	3,962	4,183	18,611
March ..	66.8	5,113	4,486	2,176	105.3	171.4	1,392	3,294	3,307	3,576	17,196
April ..	65.1	5,039	4,130	2,299	96.6	168.6	1,348	3,272	3,111	3,165	11,515
May ..	71.5	5,921	4,441	2,485	126.8	181.8	1,520	4,195	2,896	4,173	12,938
June ..	65.2	5,196	3,953	2,364	125.1	175.5	1,364	4,182	2,938	3,771	13,044
1956–57 p—											
July ..	70.1	5,184	3,979	1,990	116.9	179.6	1,381	4,126	5,543	4,494	14,416
August ..	72.2	5,431	4,119	2,046	125.4	197.5	1,415	4,415	6,113	4,922	15,919
September	66.2	5,102	3,898	2,137	125.3	176.8	1,298	r3,626	5,112	4,383	19,280
October..	74.5	5,521	4,344	2,113	139.3	203.6	1,407	4,667	5,661	5,399	26,467
November	70.8	4,959	3,725	2,015	141.3	191.6	1,391	3,625	4,776	5,476	23,727
December	51.6	3,847	2,718	1,870	115.8	167.1	1,014	r2,916	3,270	4,042	18,918
January ..	r50.1	3,356	2,884	1,294	r92.2	151.8	1,014	r2,880	2,670	2,622	16,138
February	65.6	4,626	3,913	1,995	113.3	171.2	1,309	r2,834	3,631	3,510	13,007
March ..	69.7	4,712	3,980	2,362	112.2	199.9	1,327	r3,736	3,802	4 231	12,957
April ..	68.0	4,817	4,079	1,915		197.7	1,249	3,707	3,431	3,872	10,567
May ..	77.7	5,551	4,942	2,388		203.7	1,436	4,709	4,384	4,521	11,409

(a) Includes sawn sleepers. (b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947–48—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stovettes and cookers to 1944–45—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944–45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation. (e) From July, 1955, represents total production in all establishments and includes small quantities not previously recorded in some States.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, ———, *see* page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period.	Cotton Textiles.		Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).		Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 lb.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	'000 pairs.
Monthly Average—							
1936–37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937–38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938–39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1949–50	2,519	2,398	549	14.4	4.09	3.11	1,284
1950–51	2,938	2,537	905	12.7	3.87	3.16	1,409
1951–52	2,872	2,617	905	10.1	3.04	2.42	1,400
1952–53	2,302	2,052	1,289	10.3	2.97	2.39	1,374
1953–54	3,175	2,678	1,686	11.4	3.83	2.73	1,548
1954–55	3,458	2,753	1,259	11.3	3.56	2.38	1,492
1955–56 p	3,360	3,139	1,311	12.0	3.66	2.25	1,497
Monthly Total—							
1954–55—							
May	3,481	2,958	1,560	12.4	3.69	2.34	1,638
June	3,732	3,048	1,375	13.3	3.98	2.37	1,677
1955–56 p—							
July	3,404	3,000	1,260	12.1	3.45	2.05	1,471
August	3,824	3,271	1,304	11.5	3.86	2.45	1,761
September ..	3,575	3,136	1,156	10.0	3.75	2.33	1,618
October	3,441	3,071	1,161	11.7	3.58	2.23	1,531
November ..	3,847	3,127	1,348	13.0	4.00	2.50	1,621
December ..	2,521	2,214	1,031	11.1	2.83	1.69	1,164
January	2,414	2,494	1,105	9.1	2.39	1.63	957
February ..	3,644	3,282	1,476	12.1	3.97	2.57	1,502
March	3,301	3,222	1,351	12.6	4.04	2.41	1,577
April	3,189	3,321	1,526	11.6	3.54	2.12	1,456
May	3,730	3,945	1,500	14.2	4.47	2.63	1,740
June	3,423	3,579	1,516	14.7	4.08	2.32	1,560
1956–57 p—							
July	3,653	3,933	1,628	13.4	3.81	2.53	1,670
August	3,982	4,184	1,537	13.3	4.28	2.80	1,820
September ..	3,521	3,870	1,575	11.9	4.01	2.70	1,666
October	4,029	4,314	1,713	13.2	4.55	3.20	1,893
November ..	3,570	3,948	1,765	13.8	4.19	2.92	1,723
December ..	2,554	2,875	1,252	11.9	3.02	2.03	1,213
January	2,939	3,152	1,761	11.9	2.97	2.20	1,093
February ..	3,571	4,014	2,017	14.5	4.33	2.92	1,549
March	3,598	3,851	2,444	14.6	4.32	2.96	1,658
April	r3,457	3,875	2,054	13.9	4.08	2.73	r1,608
May	4,107	4,406	2,297	16.0	4.69	3.04	1,842

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, *see* page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—*continued.*

Period.	Hosiery.				Underwear.(a)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's. (b)	Women's. Full Fash. and Circular. (c)	Children's.	Anklets (All Types) and Infants' and Babies' Wear.	Men's, Youths' and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—							
1936–37	83.1	157.1	(d)49.1	(e)	191.8		(f)60.6
1937–38	86.7	183.7	(d)52.0	(e)	227.6		(f)69.9
1938–39	91.9	178.0	(d)51.0	(e)	229.2		(f)56.2
1949–50	99.3	142.4	(d)54.7	(e)	294.2		(f)73.7
1950–51	128.0	123.1	(d)78.6	(e)	107.7	201.9	89.5
1951–52	121.8	128.7		65.3	105.6	196.6	96.5
1952–53	131.2	156.4		73.6	93.6	173.7	73.4
1953–54	157.9	179.1	(g)	101.2	120.8	224.4	103.3
1954–55	138.7	201.8		93.9	119.6	235.4	117.5
1955–56 p ..	129.4	189.6		88.3	129.8	233.0	109.3
Monthly Total—							
1954–55—							
May	128.2	203.7	(g)	96.4	124.9	235.2	100.1
June	141.8	200.3		87.8	124.4	224.4	111.0
1955–56 p—							
July	130.3	183.6		86.0	128.0	235.3	124.7
August	143.3	189.8		99.8	153.7	248.1	150.0
September ..	128.9	205.7		96.8	136.0	241.7	142.8
October ..	132.2	195.3		96.4	140.5	257.3	133.5
November ..	152.3	213.9		103.9	158.5	289.4	143.9
December ..	104.0	159.5	(g)	73.1	102.8	200.7	106.1
January ..	87.2	112.4		59.9	77.6	147.7	44.9
February ..	137.8	191.7		91.6	141.3	246.8	85.5
March	129.9	199.9		92.7	138.6	234.1	84.3
April	121.3	179.5		80.5	120.9	214.1	81.9
May	150.5	216.0		94.2	146.6	254.0	108.5
June	135.1	228.0		85.1	113.4	226.8	105.6
1956–57 p—				(h)			
July	114.4	249.1	73.0	11.7	143.3	258.1	128.6
August	138.9	269.6	71.2	11.2	143.3	269.3	146.5
September ..	133.4	246.3	67.3	10.5	143.0	240.8	139.2
October ..	158.2	278.5	71.8	12.0	171.2	297.5	165.9
November ..	134.9	262.7	66.5	9.0	156.2	281.0	145.7
December ..	91.6	191.8	51.4	7.7	116.9	221.4	101.5
January ..	78.9	179.1	40.7	5.3	101.2	172.5	59.2
February ..	117.2	247.5	65.5	8.3	146.2	261.2	100.6
March	123.8	252.4	65.4	7.5	141.9	247.0	96.0
April	117.2	226.6	56.6	8.1	121.4	211.4	99.0
May	131.1	251.9	68.7	8.8	148.4	243.2	122.7

(*a*) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric. (*b*) Includes Boys' prior to July, 1956. (*c*) Includes Maids' and Girls' stockings and all anklets subsequent to June, 1956. (*d*) Includes Infants' and Babies'. (*e*) Included with Children's. (*f*) Excludes knitted. (*g*) Included with Men's and Women's. (*h*) Infants' (sizes 0 to 3) only.

For meaning of symbols p, ——, *see* page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (including Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigmeats (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936–37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	10.0	7.7	79.6	6,261
1937–38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.9	7.2	84.0	7,084
1938–39	114.4	28.2	99.2	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.6	7.2	80.5	7,523
1949–50	125.8	35.2	103.2	14,037	3,731	7,464	50.5	17.2	12.7	7.5	87.9	13,009
1950–51	141.3	37.6	99.8	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.4	7.1	84.3	14,397
1951–52	143.4	41.1	87.3	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.6	8.9	7.1	79.1	15,398
1952–53	143.9	36.7	101.3	13,632	3,883	6,951	56.2	20.8	12.2	6.9	96.1	16,446
1953–54	134.1	37.4	99.1	13,010	4,087	6,314	58.7	19.8	10.6	7.0	96.1	17,380
1954–55	129.4	40.1	110.5	15,667	3,765	5,364	60.0	20.0	12.3	8.3	100.6	18,473
1955–56p	127.8	41.0	117.1	17,153	3,223	6,053	62.6	19.5	12.1	7.8	102.0	19,420
Monthly Total—												
1954–55—												
Apr. ..	129.7	p33.5	88.8	12,358	1,816	3,014	53.1	18.3	8.4	8.2	88.0	18,231
May ..	144.0	p40.4	74.3	9,435	1,589	2,581	62.6	18.7	8.7	8.3	98.3	16,681
June ..	121.9	p36.2	65.5	7,627	1,662	2,416	73.9	18.9	8.8	8.0	109.6	15,751
1955–56p—												
July ..	125.2	37.5	71.8	8,479	2,174	3,255	67.6	16.2	7.8	7.0	98.6	16,038
Aug. ..	119.4	40.9	98.1	13,280	3,166	5,256	70.3	17.3	8.7	7.9	104.2	18,289
Sept. ..	114.4	42.9	125.2	18,203	4,380	7,343	71.2	19.5	13.7	7.7	112.1	20,164
Oct. ..	129.7	44.9	158.1	24,318	5,363	8,969	67.6	22.0	22.8	7.4	119.8	21,947
Nov. ..	138.8	44.3	166.8	26,173	5,253	9,588	67.1	23.2	21.8	9.2	121.3	23,259
Dec. ..	135.6	40.3	160.2	25,284	4,575	8,675	60.6	23.8	17.5	10.8	112.7	23,958
Jan. ..	119.9	42.4	151.1	23,925	3,690	7,815	50.2	22.1	10.3	6.6	89.2	20,498
Feb. ..	108.6	40.5	128.0	20,041	2,515	5,797	52.4	20.6	9.2	7.1	89.3	21,120
Mar. ..	128.1	41.6	109.3	15,890	2,317	5,226	53.6	18.7	9.3	7.6	89.2	20,943
Apr. ..	131.3	37.6	90.0	12,332	1,859	3,934	53.0	17.5	8.2	7.3	86.0	16,966
May ..	147.6	43.3	77.7	9,846	1,668	3,578	65.0	16.9	8.2	7.8	97.9	15,605
June ..	135.3	36.2	68.9	8,069	1,719	3,195	72.2	16.6	8.2	7.2	104.2	14,257
1956–57p—												
July ..	137.9	38.4	76.7	9,229	2,352	3,561	69.8	16.1	8.1	6.9	100.9	15,417
Aug ..	145.8	39.1	102.0	13,758	3,561	5,374	69.9	16.3	9.4	6.9	102.5	17,004
Sept. ..	147.9	41.3	123.1	17,277	4,973	7,447	65.6	16.9	11.3	6.3	100.1	17,495
Oct. ..	144.1	44.4	161.6	24,187	6,514	9,742	64.7	17.9	14.8	7.7	105.1	22,129
Nov. ..	146.3	42.8	162.3	24,412	6,372	9,879	66.6	18.9	15.5	8.8	109.8	22,160
Dec. ..	141.7	40.5	158.8	24,071	5,747	9,093	58.1	17.9	16.2	10.3	102.5	23,555
Jan. ..	140.0	35.7	146.0	22,152	4,530	7,982	54.4	18.9	11.8	6.2	91.3	21,089
Feb. ..	135.0	37.5	113.2	16,324	3,053	6,251	58.5	19.4	9.9	6.6	94.4	18,215
Mar. ..	138.9	r42.5	103.6	14,151	2,698	5,815	68.1	19.4	10.2	7.1	104.8	18,313
Apr. ..	116.1	36.3	82.0	10,516	1,886	4,019	63.1	18.0	9.3	7.3	97.7	17,595

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (b) In terms of fresh meat.
(c) Whole milk equivalent.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r. *see* p. 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.					Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres—Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.
		Sulphuric Acid (100%).	Superphosphate.	Paints.			Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
				Ready-Mixed Paint.	Lacquers, Nitro-Cellulose.	Enamels, Natural and Synthetic.				
	'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	No.	No.	No.	'000.
Monthly Average—										
1936–37	1,805	36.4	90.9	161	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.
1937–38	1,904	41.3	102.8	170	60	39	4,032	804	518	n.a.
1938–39	1,939	40.8	100.0	176	48	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.
1949–50	2,558	51.0	123.6	330	78	186	2,347	333	1,174	164
1950–51	2,652	53.3	129.0	466	96	157	3,036	387	1,853	187
1951–52	2,795	54.2	133.1	459	99	174	3,486	390	1,865	213
1952–53	3,029	52.3	131.7	358	84	176	4,133		1,745	141
1953–54	3,487	61.0	147.6	432	109	225	5,514		2,088	241
1954–55	3,706	69.6	163.4	508	123	304	6,002		2,245	293
1955–56 p ..	3,806	74.6	177.2	548	125	343	6,563		2,029	300
Monthly Total—										
1954–55—										
May	4,115	77.0	177.9	589	135	313	6,799		2,311	327
June	3,768	78.7	195.1	502	129	331	7,157		1,995	325
1955–56 p—										
July	3,692	65.1	146.3	466	112	288	6,799		2,062	320
August	3,992	64.5	149.6	557	137	365	7,703		2,344	350
September ..	3,795	78.7	181.9	592	131	385	7,351		2,391	336
October	3,748	75.7	168.1	571	135	412	6,790		2,156	309
November ..	4,090	80.1	198.3	642	142	397	7,563		2,499	332
December ..	3,752	80.4	179.1	533	109	335	5,778		1,885	245
January	3,474	76.1	189.2	422	93	273	4,355		1,288	204
February ..	3,851	80.6	211.5	521	129	308	6,826		2,202	296
March	3,978	78.1	187.8	592	131	330	7,047		2,020	282
April	3,810	76.7	176.4	562	123	311	5,943		1,780	280
May	3,844	72.4	178.0	643	137	389	7,152		2,023	339
June	3,649	66.7	159.6	474	117	326	5,448		1,694	301
1956–57 p—										
July	3,848	58.3	114.4	489	117	321	5,585		1,881	325
August	3,988	65.7	150.9	500	122	378	6,860		1,685	325
September ..	3,843	66.9	119.3	522	113	360	5,756		1,631	284
October	4,408	69.1	161.6	617	127	424	6,854		2,069	304
November ..	4,305	63.3	128.8	624	123	425	7,214		2,061	311
December ..	3,811	60.5	127.1	549	97	348	5,344		871	211
January ..	4,071	66.8	167.8	439	101	306	5,043		966	205
February ..	4,147	82.1	200.8	586	127	358	6,693		2,271	292
March	4,074	88.8	199.5	603	146	370	7,971		2,125	274
April	3,953	85.8	191.9	r575	127	324	6,248		1,855	281
May	4,612	87.5	223.8	624	143	347	7,430		2,271	335

(a) Details for 1954–55 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production; 1955–56 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, *see* page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES: VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source: *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base: 1953 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Netherlands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United Kingdom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1950 ..	89	85	98	87	79	55	87	87	97	94	84
1951 ..	102	91	100	99	90	74	91	94	101	97	90
1952 ..	100	94	96	103	91	82	91	95	99	94	93
1953 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954 ..	106	98	109	109	109	108	110	109	104	107	93
1955 ..	116	107	112	121	118	117	118	117	111	113	104
1956 ..	122	115	111	133	128	141	124	122	113	113	107
1955—											
April ..	116	104	113	121	114	112	114	104	119	111	103
May ..	115	108	114	123	123	113	115	109	116	116	103
June ..	119	111	112	125	118	115	126	119	116	113	104
July ..	100	106	76	113	124	117	116	78	61	101	97
August ..	112	109	114	94	103	118	116	108	106	98	104
September..	120	113	120	119	125	121	123	121	116	116	106
October ..	119	114	118	123	126	120	125	124	117	121	110
November..	124	114	119	131	121	122	126	127	122	121	108
December..	128	106	110	127	122	128	124	117	116	114	106
1956—											
January ..	122	104	110	130	120	117	117	126	114	115	107
February ..	113	107	113	128	115	123	111	143	113	117	107
March ..	124	112	109	133	130	129	128	118	119	117	107
April ..	127	112	102	137	123	136	119	120	119	113	107
May ..	129	114	113	142	133	137	129	112	120	112	105
June ..	126	120	114	139	130	139	130	128	117	117	105
July ..	109	115	75	131	135	141	120	80	61	105	96
August ..	116	116	115	94	110	142	121	122	110	93	106
September..	123	120	121	133	133	144	123	132	120	116	109
October ..	127	121	124	138	141	145	136	133	125	118	113
November..	129	120	125	143	133	150	134	135	125	120	110
December	123	113	116	138	128	155	117	121	123	110	107
1957—											
January ..	123	109	118		133	141	r127	127	118	114	108
February ..	r129	114	122		r127	150	119	144	122	117	110
March ..	127	114	122		137	r157	r127	134	122	r118	110
April ..			119			158		117	125	112	107

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days. (b) Adjusted for number of working days.
(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction. (d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

For meaning of symbol r, *see* page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Excluding Defence Service vehicles. Prior to January, 1956, Department of the Navy vehicles were included.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			*New* Motor Vehicles Registered during period.		
	Motor Cars.(*a*)	Commercial Vehicles, etc.(*a*)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (*a*)	Commercial Vehicles, etc.(*a*)	Motor Cycles.
	'000.	'000.	'000.			
				Monthly Averages.		
1946–47(*b*)	550	376	87	1,770	(*c*)1,360	685
1947–48(*b*)	592	412	100	3,562	(*c*)2,397	1,192
1948–49(*b*)	655	450	117	5,539	(*c*)3,056	1,852
1949–50(*b*)	768	499	134	9,584	(*c*)4,829	2,232
1950–51(*b*)	882	548	145	10,671	6,461	2,263
1951–52(*b*)	1,031	581	154	10,480	6,085	1,846
1952–53(*b*)	1,108	579	148	7,773	4,337	941
1953–54	1,200	607	140	10,466	4,783	905
1954–55	1,347	650	133	13,900	5,598	941
1955–56	1,472	679	126	13,633	5,776	878
				Monthly Totals.		
1954–55—				(*d*)	(*d*)	(*d*)
May	1,335	647	134	16,176	6,184	1,034
June	1,347	650	133	16,525	6,192	787
1955–56—						
July	1,356	652	132	15,195	6,009	789
August	1,370	655	131	16,843	6,191	890
September ..	1,383	656	130	15,991	6,563	936
October	1,392	657	130	15,010	6,564	910
November ..	1,409	663	130	14,897	5,994	1,007
December ..	1,420	666	129	14,413	5,850	1,004
January	1,428	660	128	9,887	4,563	866
February	1,440	670	128	12,343	5,325	881
March	1,452	674	128	14,202	5,631	978
April	1,456	674	127	10,999	5,037	749
May	1,464	677	126	12,213	6,182	887
June	1,472	679	126	11,738	5,280	633
1956–57—						
July	1,478	681	125	11,778	5,436	644
August	1,489	685	125	13,653	5,225	800
September ..	1,494	683	124	11,506	4,547	662
October	1,509	689	124	13,429	5,499	875
November ..	1,520	693	124	14,058	5,632	867
December ..	1,527	694	124	12,030	4,389	782
January	1,536	695	123	10,898	3,858	842
February ..	1,543	697	123	12,099	3,319	903
March	1,551	699	122	12,090	5,290	906
April	1,557	700	122	r11,344	r4,737	r761
May				13,800	5,500	870

(*a*) Registration in Victoria is according to purpose of use and not type of vehicle ; consequently motor car registrations are overstated by the inclusion of commercial vehicles, registered for private use. Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' private cars registered in Victoria were included in commercial vehicle registrations. (*b*) Excludes Northern Territory. (*c*) Includes taxis and hire cars in Victoria. (*d*) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

For meaning of symbols p, r, *see* page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS: OPERATIONS AND REVENUE.

Period.	Revenue Train-Miles.	Goods and Livestock.(a)		Passenger Journeys.	Revenue.	
		Tons Carried.	Net Ton-miles.(b)		Gross.	Net.
	'000.	'000.	Million.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—						
1946–47	7,129	3,161	467.1	41,931	5,533	455
1947–48	7,310	3,345	494.5	42,564	6,450	511
1948–49	7,690	3,428	517.7	42,225	7,165	85
1949–50	7,785	3,362	516.9	42,054	7,683	—205
1950–51	7,390	3,392	523.1	39,674	8,804	—594
1951–52	7,780	3,672	562.9	41,707	11,626	—721
1952–53	7,394	3,644	547.8	41,468	12,903	—560
1953–54	7,789	3,880	579.4	42,557	14,155	140
1954–55	7,911	3,951	608.0	43,071	14,498	124
1955–56	8,020	3,875	606.1	42,895	14,765	—645
Monthly Total—						
1954–55—					(c)	(c)
January	7,476	3,339	531.2	40,885	13,082	—40
February	7,253	3,503	539.9	44,395	12,947	—460
March	7,606	3,910	563.5	42,811	13,725	—292
April	7,759	3,537	575.3	41,878	13,704	—761
May	8,141	4,011	633.9	46,449	14,762	—860
June	8,083	3,827	597.2	42,791	14,134	—2,073
1955–56—						
July	8,126	4,091	630.9	43,104	14,194	112
August	8,342	4,317	636.2	44,990	15,396	—195
September	8,200	4,207	636.2	43,198	15,490	947
October	8,220	4,094	628.7	45,489	15,236	218
November	7,984	4,215	636.5	40,916	15,512	—49
December	8,002	3,734	574.4	39,862	14,254	—1,203
January	7,765	3,186	522.6	42,273	13,552	—668
February	7,284	3,468	560.8	42,929	13,521	—941
March	8,047	3,622	603.4	42,160	14,790	—478
April	7,732	3,685	576.2	44,257	14,151	—759
May	8,453	4,067	649.4	43,329	15,547	—2,527
June	8,080	3,810	618.3	42,232	15,541	—2,361
1956–57 p—						
July	8,147	4,184	634.1	44,061	15,230	—330
August	8,531	4,369	658.8	39,928	16,809	579
September	8,061	4,061	633.4	41,695	16,097	1,286
October	8,537	4,476	670.5	44,995	17,500	969
November	8,131	4,219	641.2	40,735	16,714	—246
December	7,732	3,419	560.6	40,711	14,555	—1,226
January	7,902	3,534	586.5	39,933	15,029	—60
February	7,264			41,026	14,587	—457
March	7,886			41,497	15,350	—87

(a) Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway. (b) From 1948–49 figures are partly estimated. (c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

For meaning of symbols p, ———, *see* page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 Tons Weight.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.)(*a*).

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (*b*)
Monthly Average—									
1946–47.. ..	258	348	260	48	34	217	10	35	605
1947–48.. ..	378	415	270	46	34	200	7	34	592
1948–49.. ..	452	487	257	41	32	152	5	32	519
1949–50.. ..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950–51.. ..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951–52.. ..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952–53.. ..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953–54.. ..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
1954–55.. ..	507	916	302	74	43	318	73	41	851
1955–56.. ..	555	1,036	293	99	47	350	137	43	969
Monthly Total—									
1954–55—									
April	506	1,073	306	68	51	290	67	35	818
May	486	1,058	335	77	28	352	115	42	949
June	483	1,073	369	107	13	309	114	43	955
1955–56—									
July	462	857	400	106	82	363	116	51	1,118
August ..	496	1,056	329	119	65	340	142	43	1,039
September ..	454	981	311	99	70	360	179	48	1,068
October ..	460	971	305	97	62	340	117	34	956
November ..	513	1,085	284	124	48	329	143	42	971
December ..	560	1,117	250	110	61	290	164	26	901
January(*c*) ..	464	942	192	89	29	371	174	35	890
February(*c*) ..	369	898	177	90	21	295	105	19	708
March ..	722	1,133	286	69	43	374	113	55	940
April	683	1,007	301	103	14	356	109	50	933
May	821	1,300	366	95	27	392	133	57	1,071
June	663	1,082	319	91	37	387	148	55	1,037
1956–57 p—									
July	686	968	314	62	60	342	99	34	911
August ..	715	1,080	376	91	50	369	120	42	1,049
September ..	786	965	326	72	55	410	137	40	1,040
October ..	769	1,127	316	117	68	408	107	31	1,049
November ..	794	1,110	331	107	86	431	116	37	1,110
December ..	714	963	265	132	79	375	107	30	988
January ..	796	1,119	257	82	65	370	123	30	929
February ..	751	954	246	135	60	357	69	25	892
March ..	864	1,005	282	92	56	428	129	25	1,012
April	597	1,049	260	82	47	359	120	28	897

(*a*) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 46. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory. (*c*) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbol p, *see* page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 Tons of 40 Cubic Feet Measurement
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight.)(*a*)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (*b*)
Monthly Average—									
1946–47.. ..	113	116	23	24	12	17	7	22	106
1947–48.. ..	104	160	29	18	12	16	6	24	105
1948–49.. ..	114	214	29	20	10	15	6	18	98
1949–50.. ..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950–51.. ..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951–52.. ..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952–53.. ..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953–54.. ..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
1954–55.. ..	118	284	34	35	10	16	8	20	123
1955–56.. ..	129	285	24	31	9	12	8	27	111
Monthly Total—									
1954–55—									
April	130	267	32	31	9	15	9	28	124
May	206	310	28	38	9	14	10	21	120
June	145	302	36	38	9	17	13	21	134
1955–56—									
July	127	315	31	50	10	17	6	33	148
August ..	130	324	24	32	13	16	9	32	126
September ..	123	289	34	36	17	16	12	37	152
October ..	133	325	24	38	11	14	6	23	116
November ..	112	322	27	39	18	16	12	30	142
December ..	112	316	22	32	3	14	8	18	97
January(*c*) ..	65	213	15	20	4	5	3	17	64
February(*c*) ..	43	269	12	9	4	4	7	30	66
March ..	157	289	26	27	5	17	11	16	102
April	185	268	24	27	9	8	6	26	100
May	197	256	28	28	9	6	13	36	120
June	162	235	19	33	8	9	8	22	99
1956–57 p—									
July	78	277	14	20	9	8	11	25	87
August ..	125	329	29	28	8	6	5	28	104
September ..	101	214	19	34	8	10	5	42	118
October ..	107	220	23	34	8	7	12	34	118
November ..	110	243	22	39	8	8	7	28	112
December ..	98	204	17	24	5	8	4	24	82
January ..	82	249	13	29	5	3	9	30	91
February ..	82	156	17	26	10	8	6	37	104
March ..	142	221	27	40	6	8	9	33	124
April	173	238	19	36	8	7	5	39	114

(*a*) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 45. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory. (*c*) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbol p, *see* page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G's Department at end of period.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Television Viewers' Licences in force at end of period.(b)	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
				Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
	Monthly Average.				
1946–47	2,484	1,771	..	648	905
1947–48	2,616	1,833	..	688	963
1948–49	2,776	1,919	..	734	1,028
1949–50	3,196	2,030	..	793	1,110
1950–51	3,732	(c)2,110	..	864	1,209
1951–52	4,948	1,961	..	927	1,301
1952–53	5,367	1,986	..	985	1,384
1953–54	5,650	2,042	..	1,050	1,476
1954–55	6,069	2,035	..	1,127	1,587
1955–56	6,612	2,089	..	1,207	1,704
	Monthly Total.				
1954–55—					
May	6,231	2,039	..	1,120	1,576
June	6,637	2,035	..	1,127	1,587
1955–56—					
July	5,921	2,036	..	1,135	1,598
August	6,509	2,045	..	1,143	1,610
September ..	6,493	2,051	..	1,151	1,622
October	6,766	2,051	..	1,159	1,634
November ..	6,437	2,050	..	1,166	1,643
December ..	7,141	2,055	..	1,173	1,653
January	6,097	2,065	..	1,179	1,662
February ..	6,285	2,069	..	1,185	1,671
March	6,803	2,068	..	1,190	1,679
April	6,116	2,075	..	1,195	1,685
May	7,352	2,081	..	1,201	1,695
June	7,422	2,089	..	1,207	1,704
1956–57—					
July	6,743	2,095	..	1,213	1,714
August	6,716	2,101	..	1,220	1,724
September ..	6,455	2,099	..	1,226	1,734
October	8,110	2,108	..	1,233	1,743
November ..	7,225	2,101	..	1,239	1,753
December ..	7,611	2,092	..	1,245	1,762
January	7,073	2,101	r22	1,250	1,771
February ..	7,312	2,102	r28	1,255	1,777
March	8,020	2,111	r34	1,260	1,786
April	7,539	2,108	r42	1,266	1,795
May	8,457	2,111	57	1,272	1,804

(a) Actual collections. (b) Licences, taken out in advance, did not come into force until 1st January, 1957. (c) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess of one are included.

For meaning of symbols r, ———, *see* page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Government and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1936–37.. ..	184.7	112.9	297.6	262.5	15.0	..	34.2	24.5
1937–38.. ..	194.8	120.0	314.8	274.4	21.4	..	37.1	20.7
1938–39.. ..	198.8	118.9	317.7	288.1	20.5	..	33.6	21.5
1949–50.. ..	224.5	685.6	910.1	(d) 403.9	83.8	377.0	52.0	26.5
1950–51.. ..	247.7	896.5	1,144.2	479.3	90.2	500.3	59.3	36.9
1951–52.. ..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	621.4	68.4	466.0	60.6	32.4
1952–53.. ..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	638.1	86.5	211.7	74.7	123.1
1953–54.. ..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	658.5	130.3	285.2	71.2	99.4
1954–55 (e) ..	263.0	1,047.7	1,310.7	776.8	121.9	269.1	66.9	51.6
1955–56.. ..	263.1	1,032.3	1,295.4	804.4	114.0	238.8	66.9	50.0
1954–55—								
May	268.8	1,059.9	1,328.7	811.4	126.0	259.6	59.6	48.6
June	267.2	1,040.0	1,307.2	817.7	124.6	245.8	65.4	27.8
1955–56—								
July	267.9	1,012.9	1,280.8	829.9	113.9	238.8	69.2	18.8
August ..	264.3	999.9	1,264.2	820.4	110.4	231.9	67.0	22.0
September ..	260.9	996.8	1,257.7	823.1	106.2	231.9	65.4	23.6
October ..	264.0	1,013.1	1,277.1	831.4	106.8	231.9	64.1	27.5
November ..	261.8	1,034.0	1,295.8	823.3	110.3	231.9	65.1	31.9
December (f) ..	259.3	1,062.2	1,321.5	814.5	110.4	231.9	71.4	45.0
January ..	261.3	1,070.5	1,331.8	784.2	113.4	231.9	76.4	92.8
February ..	259.7	1,072.2	1,331.9	773.7	117.2	247.4	66.9	111.6
March ..	259.4	1,075.0	1,334.4	776.2	119.0	263.9	65.7	91.6
April	262.8	1,058.7	1,321.5	786.8	119.0	257.3	60.5	62.1
May	265.9	1,011.9	1,277.8	798.4	119.0	238.7	66.8	41.5
June	269.2	991.2	1,260.4	793.9	120.9	227.7	65.7	28.9
1956–57—								
July	275.5	967.9	1,243.4	797.7	115.5	223.4	64.9	29.6
August ..	278.6	955.8	1,234.4	787.0	116.3	223.4	68.5	28.9
September ..	284.1	964.4	1,248.5	778.5	119.9	223.4	71.4	37.4
October ..	287.6	993.9	1,281.5	780.2	124.6	225.9	64.3	51.9
November ..	293.4	1,018.0	1,311.4	771.2	136.3	235.9	64.6	54.1
December (f) ..	299.2	1,041.4	1,340.6	762.2	151.0	235.9	65.9	62.5
January ..	305.6	1,056.9	1,362.5	744.9	167.5	237.7	73.1	83.3
February ..	310.1	1,080.8	1,390.9	732.5	182.9	261.8	66.2	88.6
March ..	312.9	1,103.4	1,416.3	725.5	189.2	282.7	60.2	92.4
April	311.9	1,083.1	1,395.0	743.5	184.8	300.4	51.7	47.7
May	316.3	1,052.4	1,368.7	757.3	174.2	300.4	55.8	27.7

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now includes Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, The Bank of New South Wales, The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.). Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Excludes inscribed stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures are not strictly comparable with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities. (e) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in. vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., ———, *see* page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS(*a*)—*continued.*

RATIOS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS (*b*) WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(Per Cent.)

Period.	Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
	Cash in Australia.	Cash +Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances +Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	
Average of Weekly Figures—						
1936–37	**11.49**	**19.73**	**88.20**	**93.26**	..	**37.93**
1937–38	**11.79**	**18.37**	**87.15**	**93.95**	..	**38.13**
1938–39	**10.58**	**17.36**	**90.70**	**97.15**	..	**37.42**
1949–50	**5.71**	**8.62**	(*d*)**44.35**	(*d*)**53.55**	**41.40**	**75.28**
1950–51	5.19	8.41	41.89	49.69	43.73	78.35
1951–52	5.04	7.74	51.71	57.40	38.78	80.18
1952–53	6.43	17.02	54.89	62.33	18.21	81.19
1953–54	5.59	13.38	51.63	61.85	22.36	81.20
1954–55(*e*)	5.10	9.04	59.26	68.56	20.53	79.93
1955–56	5.16	9.02	62.09	70.89	18.43	79.69
1954–55—						
May	4.49	8.15	61.07	70.56	19.54	79.77
June	5.01	7.14	62.55	72.08	18.80	79.56
1955–56—						
July	5.41	6.87	64.80	73.69	18.65	79.08
August	5.30	7.04	64.89	73.62	18.34	79.09
September	5.20	7.07	65.45	73.89	18.44	79.26
October	5.02	7.17	65.10	73.47	18.16	79.33
November	5.03	7.49	63.53	72.05	17.90	79.79
December(*f*)	5.40	8.81	61.63	69.98	17.55	80.38
January	5.74	12.71	58.89	67.40	17.41	80.38
February	5.02	13.40	58.09	66.89	18.58	80.50
March	4.92	11.79	58.17	67.09	19.78	80.56
April	4.58	9.28	59.53	68.54	19.47	80.12
May	5.23	8.47	62.48	71.79	18.68	79.19
June	5.21	7.50	62.98	72.57	18.06	78.64
1956–57—						
July	5.22	7.60	64.16	73.45	17.97	77.84
August	5.55	7.89	63.76	73.18	18.10	77.43
September	5.72	8.72	62.36	71.96	17.89	77.24
October	5.02	9.07	60.88	70.60	17.63	77.55
November	4.87	9.00	58.81	69.20	17.99	77.63
December(*f*)	4.91	9.57	56.86	68.12	17.60	77.68
January	5.36	11.47	54.67	66.96	17.44	77.57
February	4.76	11.13	52.66	65.81	18.82	77.70
March	4.25	10.78	51.22	64.58	19.96	77.91
April	3.71	7.13	53.30	66.55	21.53	77.64
May	4.08	6.10	55.33	68.05	21.95	76.89

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on previous page. (*b*) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock. (*c*) Excludes Treasury Bills. (*d*) Figures are not strictly comparable with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities. (*e*) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (*f*) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., ——, *see* page 1.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(*a*), and COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA (RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS).

(£ million.)

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(*a*)(*b*)								Commonwealth Bank—Advances.(*b*)			
	Deposits.			Advances.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank. (*c*)	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.	Rural Credits Department.	Mortgage Bank Department.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.								Hire Purchase.	Other.
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1949–50 ..	14.8	62.5	77.3	45.3	..	6.2	2.0	35.4	13.8	3.5	12.8	6.3
1950–51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	62.5	..	7.2	24.0	26.9	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951–52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	76.4	..	6.6	26.4	13.3	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952–53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	(*d*)59.5	21.7	8.8	(*c*)17.2	(*d*)25.8	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953–54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	69.2	34.8	11.0	23.4	29.9	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1954–55 ..	43.6	130.9	174.5	89.1	36.1	10.5	12.3	38.2	62.3	4.8	17.0	6.7
1955–56 ..	46.3	135.6	181.9	103.9	33.2	10.2	6.3	38.6	73.8	5.1	16.6	9.0
1954–55—												
May ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	97.8	35.0	10.4	12.0	39.6	74.4	5.0	16.7	8.2
June ..	46.2	134.9	181.1	98.5	33.8	11.6	8.9	39.7	64.2	4.9	16.8	8.3
1955–56—												
July ..	48.1	131.3	179.4	103.1	33.2	10.2	5.0	40.0	57.1	5.1	16.8	8.4
August ..	48.6	131.2	179.8	105.4	32.7	9.5	5.7	39.2	50.2	5.1	16.9	8.7
September	48.9	131.9	180.8	106.0	32.7	10.4	4.1	40.0	50.4	5.1	16.9	8.8
October..	48.6	136.5	185.1	105.0	32.7	10.8	8.5	40.0	52.0	5.1	17.0	8.9
November	48.4	139.6	188.0	105.0	32.7	10.1	10.5	40.0	46.7	5.1	17.2	9.1
December *e*	47.0	140.4	187.4	104.8	32.7	10.9	8.0	40.0	50.4	5.1	17.3	9.4
January ..	47.5	132.5	180.0	105.9	32.7	10.6	2.8	40.1	66.2	5.1	17.0	9.1
February	46.7	132.9	179.6	104.8	33.6	9.8	4.2	40.1	98.8	5.0	16.5	9.1
March ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	102.7	35.7	10.1	6.0	36.8	113.5	5.1	16.0	9.1
April ..	40.9	141.9	182.8	101.3	34.8	10.7	7.6	35.7	109.5	5.1	15.8	9.2
May ..	42.0	138.2	180.2	101.0	32.9	9.8	8.2	35.7	98.1	5.1	15.8	9.3
June ..	42.7	136.4	179.1	101.9	31.9	10.2	5.0	35.7	86.6	5.0	15.7	9.4
1956–57—												
July ..	42.7	132.7	175.4	105.3	31.2	8.9	2.0	35.7	76.9	5.1	15.7	9.2
August ..	43.3	135.8	179.1	106.0	31.2	9.3	4.0	36.3	64.8	5.1	15.8	9.3
September	43.1	135.8	178.9	106.2	31.2	9.6	4.0	37.2	56.6	5.1	16.3	9.3
October..	43.1	138.8	181.9	108.2	31.7	9.9	2.8	36.5	51.4	5.1	16.7	9.4
November	43.7	142.9	186.6	107.9	33.7	10.3	4.3	35.9	44.8	5.1	17.2	9.5
December *e*	45.0	144.1	189.1	107.4	33.7	8.9	4.8	35.9	38.2	5.1	17.3	9.6
January..	44.4	137.8	182.2	110.8	33.7	10.9	3.7	32.1	44.1	5.1	17.1	9.2
February	45.0	139.7	184.7	108.4	34.9	9.8	5.4	33.5	64.1	5.1	16.8	9.2
March ..	44.6	142.7	187.3	105.2	37.3	10.5	4.0	36.1	72.9	5.2	16.5	9.4
April ..	45.2	144.7	189.9	103.7	39.1	10.7	3.5	36.9	66.8	5.2	16.5	9.4
May ..	45.8	142.7	188.5	105.2	39.1	9.7	3.9	36.2	54.8	5.3	16.1	9.5

(*a*) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (*b*) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (*c*) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly, in Treasury Bills. (*d*) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to building societies and *crédit foncier* loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000. (*e*) Returns for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbols .., ——, *see* page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.(a)

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1949–50.. ..	27.9	194.3	222.2	379.6	30.7	200.3	434.0	349.0
1950–51.. ..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951–52.. ..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952–53.. ..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953–54.. ..	38.5	299.7	338.2	(b)306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1954–55.. ..	40.9	316.1	357.0	306.3	36.8	243.5	415.9	459.8
1955–56.. ..	43.0	331.1	374.1	272.8	35.6	208.7	298.9	515.7
1954–55—								
May	41.3	320.8	362.1	295.6	28.7	234.7	375.8	462.7
June	40.6	322.5	363.1	280.7	37.1	234.5	374.2	470.1
1955–56—								
July	40.1	323.8	363.9	273.1	40.5	217.1	360.2	471.1
August ..	40.1	325.9	366.0	265.4	36.7	216.0	343.8	486.8
September ..	40.2	328.1	368.3	265.4	36.1	205.9	321.6	502.0
October ..	40.7	329.6	370.3	265.4	34.4	210.5	303.3	525.4
November ..	41.4	331.4	372.8	265.4	34.8	208.7	301.0	535.3
December(c) ..	48.3	343.5	391.8	265.4	36.5	205.2	297.6	552.8
January ..	47.4	333.5	380.9	265.4	40.6	207.3	298.1	534.0
February ..	42.8	330.6	373.4	281.9	33.5	211.4	293.2	511.0
March ..	41.5	335.9	377.4	300.4	36.0	211.0	274.0	540.6
April	45.9	336.2	382.1	292.9	27.8	200.8	258.4	530.5
May	45.1	329.7	374.8	272.4	34.4	204.3	263.4	509.6
June	43.9	330.4	374.3	260.4	37.2	204.1	270.2	503.9
1956–57—								
July	43.1	330.7	373.8	255.4	33.5	202.2	282.4	497.2
August ..	42.8	333.8	376.6	255.4	38.4	201.7	292.0	513.8
September ..	42.7	337.1	379.8	255.4	40.7	203.9	286.7	538.2
October ..	43.7	337.4	381.1	258.4	31.8	206.2	285.9	546.5
November ..	43.5	340.6	384.1	270.3	34.2	207.6	302.0	559.2
December(c) ..	50.9	348.9	399.8	270.3	27.6	205.4	317.9	555.5
January ..	51.0	341.4	392.4	272.1	34.9	203.3	339.5	525.8
February ..	43.5	336.1	379.6	297.6	35.5	206.2	364.7	498.4
March ..	43.3	337.5	380.8	320.7	30.1	204.8	386.8	488.2
April	44.1	344.6	388.7	340.3	19.8	208.3	428.0	470.6
May	46.3	337.8	384.1	340.3	20.6	212.3	450.7	461.5

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays in period. (b) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (c) Return for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbol ——, *see* page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(*a*)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(*b*)

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.				
Average of Weekly Figures—							
1949–50	249.3	771.2	1,020.5	495.4	62.2	29.5	132.3
1950–51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	598.4	71.4	64.0	129.5
1951–52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	759.7	72.3	61.7	96.6
1952–53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(*c*)762.3	(*d*)88.2	(*d*)144.2	(*c*)126.2
1953–54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	793.7	87.3	130.1	174.2
1954–55	322.6	1,220.0	1,542.6	938.1	82.0	69.5	174.1
1955–56	325.7	1,207.7	1,533.4	984.1	81.1	60.5	167.0
1954–55—							
May	330.2	1,236.5	1,566.7	983.6	74.1	65.5	179.2
June	329.8	1,214.9	1,544.7	990.8	81.8	40.7	177.8
1955–56—							
July	332.4	1,182.3	1,514.7	1,007.7	83.8	27.2	167.5
August	329.2	1,167.9	1,497.1	999.8	80.3	30.9	163.3
September ..	326.5	1,164.7	1,491.2	1,004.4	79.3	30.6	160.1
October	329.1	1,185.9	1,515.0	1,012.3	78.7	39.4	160.8
November ..	326.6	1,210.4	1,537.0	1,004.5	78.8	45.6	164.3
December(*e*) ..	322.6	1,240.8	1,563.4	995.2	86.5	56.4	165.0
January	325.1	1,243.8	1,568.9	966.3	91.5	98.9	168.3
February ..	322.9	1,248.9	1,571.8	954.4	81.2	120.8	172.1
March	321.0	1,254.7	1,575.7	954.6	79.9	104.4	170.7
April	319.7	1,244.2	1,563.9	964.7	75.0	76.1	169.6
May	324.1	1,192.0	1,516.1	976.2	80.6	54.5	169.6
June	328.4	1,167.7	1,496.1	972.4	79.6	37.4	171.5
1956–57—							
July	334.8	1,139.1	1,473.9	979.7	77.2	34.3	166.1
August	338.4	1,129.4	1,467.8	968.9	81.0	34.7	167.5
September ..	343.4	1,138.3	1,481.7	959.9	84.9	43.4	171.8
October	346.7	1,170.9	1,517.6	964.9	77.8	57.0	176.0
November ..	353.6	1,200.8	1,554.4	956.1	79.0	61.3	187.7
December(*e*) ..	361.2	1,226.2	1,587.4	947.3	78.9	70.4	202.7
January	367.2	1,237.7	1,604.9	933.8	88.1	90.9	215.6
February ..	372.5	1,265.7	1,638.2	919.0	80.3	99.9	233.2
March	374.9	1,291.8	1,666.7	909.6	74.6	102.9	242.2
April	374.5	1,272.5	1,647.0	926.7	66.2	57.3	238.0
May	379.4	1,238.3	1,617.7	942.0	69.4	37.3	226.1

(*a*) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945–1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of the Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (*b*) *See* note (*b*), page 50. (*c*) *See* note (*d*), page 50. (*d*) *See* note (*c*), page 50. (*e*) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol ——, *see* page 1.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1949–50.. ..	104.9	97.8	29.5	19.3	13.7	5.6	0.3	271.1
1950–51.. ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951–52.. ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952–53.. ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953–54.. ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1954–55(b) ..	187.5	176.2	53.9	36.3	26.2	10.7	0.8	491.6
1955–56.. ..	200.9	185.4	56.0	39.6	26.9	11.6	1.0	521.4
1954–55—								
May	203.3	191.7	56.5	39.3	28.2	12.1	1.0	532.1
June	206.0	182.3	56.6	38.5	25.0	12.6	0.9	521.9
1955–56—								
July	201.7	183.8	59.4	37.8	26.1	11.0	0.9	520.7
August ..	186.9	167.3	53.2	36.0	23.9	11.1	0.9	479.3
September ..	193.7	169.3	56.7	36.3	25.5	10.8	1.0	493.3
October ..	202.9	183.8	57.0	37.6	25.9	11.0	1.0	519.2
November ..	216.1	196.1	57.7	41.6	27.7	11.2	1.0	551.4
December ..	214.1	205.2	59.6	42.6	28.8	11.8	1.0	563.1
January ..	183.9	172.2	52.9	39.3	30.0	10.4	1.1	489.8
February ..	187.1	184.0	50.9	39.8	27.8	10.9	1.0	501.5
March ..	199.7	191.1	54.5	41.4	26.8	12.2	1.2	526.9
April	201.2	190.2	52.0	38.4	27.0	12.6	1.0	522.4
May	218.0	199.2	58.3	43.1	28.2	13.5	1.1	561.4
June	203.8	181.0	60.9	40.4	25.4	12.7	1.1	525.3
1956–57—								
July	214.6	185.0	61.9	40.5	26.4	12.3	1.0	541.7
August ..	189.0	165.1	55.5	35.5	24.9	11.1	1.0	482.1
September ..	201.0	183.5	59.3	39.9	29.3	12.0	1.1	526.1
October ..	221.8	192.3	63.3	42.0	29.2	12.4	1.2	562.2
November ..	226.1	194.2	65.5	42.8	29.2	12.4	1.0	571.2
December ..	231.7	202.8	65.2	45.5	28.9	14.3	1.2	589.6
January ..	202.3	188.0	60.4	38.2	30.0	10.7	1.4	531.0
February ..	224.7	206.2	66.2	48.7	30.7	13.0	1.2	590.7
March ..	233.5	207.1	63.6	46.5	30.5	14.4	1.5	597.1
April	232.2	210.4	63.8	46.0	27.4	12.8	1.3	593.9
May	229.8	214.6	64.2	44.9	29.0	13.3	1.4	597.2

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945–1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 52, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded for March, 1955 and subsequent months.

For meaning of symbol ——, *see* page 1.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.									War Savings and Savings Certificates—Net Amount Outstanding.
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
1936–37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9	..
1937–38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4	..
1938–39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6	..
1949–50 ..	258.9	257.1	92.2	87.7	39.6	24.3	0.9	1.4	762.1	55.0
1950–51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4	48.1
1951–52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9	41.8
1952–53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5	35.6
1953–54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1	30.3
1954–55 ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	1,073.4	26.6
1955–56 ..	386.7	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	4.7		1,141.1	23.3
1954–55—										
May ..	351.4	357.3	122.1	128.9	52.5	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,051.5	26.9
June ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	(a) 1,073.4	26.6
1955–56—										
July ..	360.4	366.9	126.3	132.6	54.2	36.2	1.5	2.6	1,080.7	26.3
August	358.9	367.3	126.7	132.5	54.3	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,080.7	26.0
September	359.5	368.9	126.5	132.9	54.6	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,083.4	25.7
October	362.3	370.1	127.6	133.6	54.9	36.8	1.5	2.7	1,089.5	25.4
November	361.8	371.1	127.7	132.9	54.7	36.5	1.5	2.7	1,088.9	25.2
December	364.1	371.4	128.1	132.8	54.4	36.4	1.5	2.7	1,091.4	24.9
January	367.3	371.5	127.9	132.7	54.7	36.3	4.3		1,094.7	24.6
February	371.2	373.5	128.2	132.9	55.0	36.6	4.3		1,101.7	24.4
March	374.4	375.3	129.1	133.1	55.4	36.5	4.4		1,108.2	24.2
April ..	375.7	375.7	128.9	132.9	55.8	36.7	4.5		1,110.2	23.9
May ..	376.7	376.9	128.8	132.3	56.2	36.6	4.6		1,112.1	23.6
June ..	386.7	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	4.7		(a) 1,141.1	23.3
1956–57—										
July ..	390.3	388.3	134.1	136.7	58.6	37.6	4.7		1,150.3	23.1
August	394.7	392.7	135.9	137.2	59.6	38.3	4.8		1,163.2	22.8
September	399.7	396.3	137.9	137.7	60.5	38.5	4.8		1,175.4	22.4
October	403.2	399.0	139.4	138.2	61.0	38.5	4.9		1,184.2	22.1
November	405.5	401.6	140.5	138.6	61.4	38.4	5.0		1,191.0	21.8
December	406.2	400.4	140.8	137.6	61.1	38.2	4.8		1,189.1	21.5
January	408.1	400.4	140.1	137.6	61.0	38.3	4.9		1,190.4	21.2
February	412.1	402.7	140.6	138.8	61.2	38.6	4.9		1,198.9	21.0
March	412.4	402.2	140.4	138.5	61.1	38.5	5.0		1,198.1	20.7
April ..	411.3	400.6	140.4	138.3	61.0	38.4	5.0		1,195.0	20.5
May ..	413.	402.8	141.3	138.7	61.3	38.5	5.1		1,200.9	20.3

(a) Interest added 1954-55 £20.6m; 1955-56, £23.3m. The major part of this interest was added in June each year.

For meaning of symbol .., *see* page 1.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.	New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums.(c)		Claims, etc., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted.(e)
	Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department.		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
	Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.					
		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—									
1937	12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938	11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939	11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1949–50.. ..	20,538	12,243	24,999	2,509	2,877	1,003	1,224	512	2,778
1950–51.. ..	21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951–52.. ..	23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952–53.. ..	23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953–54.. ..	23,709	21,177	19,964	2,714	4,679	1,172	1,763	670	2,872
1954–55.. ..	23,505	24,365	18,415	2,734	5,175	1,218	1,983	738	4,319
1955–56.. ..	24,796	27,893	17,551	2,721	5,785	1,228	2,263	793	4,744
Monthly Total—									
1954–55—									
April	19,535	20,123	17,156	2,688	4,750	1,162	1,849	666	4,875
May	24,860	31,169	19,992	2,982	6,112	1,260	2,157	798	4,327
June	27,002	29,666	20,225	3,119	6,749	1,359	2,182	795	6,861
1955–56—									
July	29,780	31,298	17,383	2,649	5,812	1,181	2,424	842	4,083
August ..	28,314	30,682	21,003	3,316	5,702	1,182	2,322	864	5,217
September ..	35,366	36,605	22,065	3,476	6,072	1,272	2,415	814	5,191
October ..	20,584	22,642	19,056	2,887	5,192	1,262	2,020	821	4,447
November ..	25,697	26,896	18,249	2,846	5,352	1,284	2,177	784	6,011
December ..	27,944	45,467	17,075	2,864	6,340	1,558	2,584	706	5,473
January ..	13,527	14,085	3,568	507	4,786	641	1,619	595	3,518
February ..	20,759	20,434	16,586	2,495	4,990	1,229	2,250	769	4,376
March ..	24,048	24,706	19,946	3,059	5,440	1,296	2,196	840	5,044
April	22,109	22,613	18,158	2,736	5,886	1,225	2,072	737	3,935
May	24,309	30,292	18,499	2,870	6,686	1,280	2,484	884	4,292
June	25,121	28,997	19,019	2,952	7,168	1,324	2,596	855	5,338
1956–57—									
July	24,612	31,567	20,260	3,211	6,846	1,203	2,674	912	5,796
August ..	26,391	31,273	20,595	3,233	6,257	1,284	2,627	953	4,724
September ..	32,415	38,409	24,957	3,897	6,371	1,242	2,432	840	4,746
October ..	22,802	30,266	16,139	2,484	6,223	1,265	2,651	907	4,517
November ..	25,701	32,053	18,673	2,974	6,006	1,429	2,381	852	5,931
December ..	27,565	54,543	14,746	2,557	6,209	1,480	2,343	669	5,643
January ..	13,445	17,087	5,383	801	5,734	756	2,118	644	3,400
February ..	19,066	26,103	16,373	2,523	5,780	1,235	2,328	775	3,609
March ..	25,291	31,747	18,375	2,866	6,282	1,245	2,606	858	5,698
April	21,986	27,805	18,850	2,936	6,450	1,254	2,389	832	5,085

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947–48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns. (b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities. (d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash. (e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., ———, *see* page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales.
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
	£A. per £100 Stg.	$ per £Stg.	$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. (e)
1936–37	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.781	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	(h)5.3
1937–38	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	(h)5.3
1938–39	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	(i)5.4
								(i)
1949–50	125.25	3.074	2.445	14.443	11.557	1.95	3.13	4.4
1950–51	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	4.4
1951–52	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952–53	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953–54	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1954–55	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.536	3.49	4.50	5.2
1955–56	125.25	2.795	2.228	15.625	12.496	4.39	4.76	5.8
1954–55—								(i) (j)
April	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.533	3.55	4.53	5.4
May	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.534	3.61	4.49	5.4
June	125.25	2.790	2.220	15.625	12.560	3.74	4.53	5.5
1955–56—								
July	125.25	2.785	2.217	15.625	12.583	3.91	4.53	5.5
August ..	125.25	2.787	2.218	15.625	12.569	4.08	4.51	5.5
September ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.556	4.23	4.51	5.5
October ..	125.25	2.739	2.222	15.625	12.528	3.96	4.53	5.6
November ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.477	4.07	4.52	5.6
December ..	125.25	2.803	2.230	15.625	12.478	4.19	4.53	5.7
January ..	125.25	2.807	2.234	15.625	12.465	4.13	4.54	5.8
February ..	125.25	2.807	2.233	15.625	12.466	4.26	4.57	5.8
March ..	125.25	2.805	2.233	15.625	12.472	4.68	5.12	5.9
April	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.460	4.97	5.18	5.9
May	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.461	5.02	5.19	6.0
June	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.437	5.13	5.34	6.1
1956–57—								
July	125.25	2.794	2.224	15.625	12.528	4.68	5.15	6.2
August ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.581	4.70	5.05	6.3
September ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.579	4.99	5.04	6.4
October ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.575	4.68	5.05	6.5
November ..	125.25	2.783	2.214	15.625	12.569	4.60	5.07	6.6
December ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.532	4.69	5.09	6.6
January ..	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.479	4.68	5.04	6.6
February ..	125.25	2.798	2.227	15.625	12.469	4.70	5.05	6.6
March ..	125.25	2.793	2.223	15.625	12.499	4.70	5.03	6.6
April	125.25	2.789	2.219	15.625	12.520	4.77	5.06	6.6
May	125.25	2.791	2.221	15.625	12.516	4.70	5.05	6.7

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate. Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0–5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Weighted average twelve months. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Urban securities only. (i) Rural and urban securities. (j) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks— Fixed Deposits— 3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Overdrafts (Maximum Rate). Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.	Commonwealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Commonwealth Loans (Long Term).
1940—1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25	(b)	2.00	1.75	3.625
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.50	3.250
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
1944—17th January..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.250
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1st December	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1946—20th November	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.125
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.125
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.125
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.750
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.750
25th November	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.500
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1956—15th March ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1st April ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	4.500
10th May ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000
4th December	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.50	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Rates for Private Trading Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent. (c) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (d) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (e) Average rate on all advances not to exceed 5½ per cent.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Commonwealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Commonwealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1955–56—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	31st Dec. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598	31st Jan. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	29th Feb. ..	265,000	7,400	272,400
1949 ..	123,280	..	123,280	31st Mar. ..	280,000	6,400	286,400
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	30th April ..	220,000	5,900	225,900
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680	31st May ..	180,000	3,900	183,900
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	30th June ..	165,000	..	165,000
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000				
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	1956–57—			
1955 ..	160,000	..	160,000	31st July ..	155,000	2,250	157,250
1956 ..	165,000	..	165,000	31st August	190,000	3,000	193,000
				30th Sept. ..	210,000	3,000	213,000
1954–55—				31st Oct. ..	240,000	3,000	243,000
30th June ..	160,000	..	160,000	30th Nov. ..	255,000	11,000	266,000
1955–56—				31st Dec. ..	270,000	14,000	284,000
31st July ..	150,000	..	150.000	31st Jan. ..	260,000	14,000	274,000
31st August	155,000	..	155.000	28th Feb. ..	270,000	14,000	284,000
30th Sept. ..	180,000	2,400	182,400	31st Mar. ..	260,000	12,000	272,000
31st Oct. ..	195,000	2,900	197,900	30th April ..	190,000	12,000	202,000
30th Nov. ..	210,000	5,900	215,900	31st May ..	147,000	9,000	156,000

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.

For meaning of symbol .., *see* page 1.

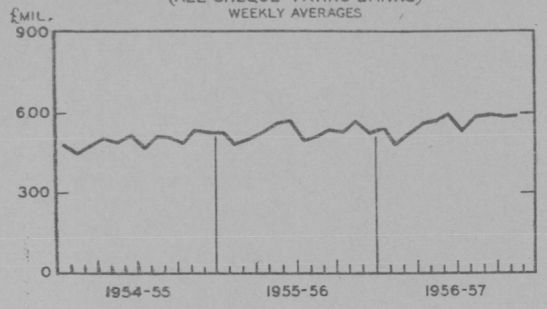
COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE.(*a*)

(£ million.)

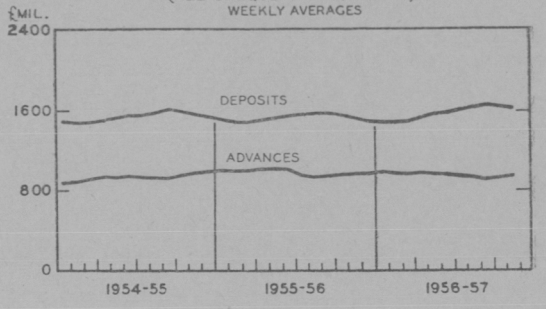
Period.	New South Wales.(*b*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Commonwealth.	Grand Total.(*a*)
REVENUE.									
1936–37	49.2	27.2	16.5	11.7	10.2	3.5	118.3	82.8	191.1
1937–38	53.6	27.6	17.3	12.5	10.8	3.6	125.4	89.5	204.8
1938–39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1950–51	128.3	63.5	44.7	31.1	29.0	7.8	304.4	841.8	1,032.0
1951–52	167.1	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	386.5	1,016.8	1,260.1
1952–53	180.9	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	436.1	1,040.1	1,310.7
1953–54	186.6	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	468.3	1,022.8	1,320.3
1954–55	193.0	116.8	73.8	48.7	46.1	14.5	492.9	1,067.4	1,384.8
1955–56	202.1	123.1	75.7	55.4	49.6	17.8	523.7	1,138.4	1,473.0
1956–57 (Estimate) ..	219.9	133.3	84.8	60.9	53.5	19.1	571.5	1,235.1	1,600.0
1954–55—									
July—March ..	134.4	74.5	51.3	33.4	32.1	9.5	335.2	648.1	874.2
—April ..	152.2	84.9	58.7	37.6	36.0	10.8	380.2	783.9	1,032.8
—May ..	171.5	96.8	65.2	42.3	39.6	12.2	427.6	918.2	1,192.2
1955–56—									
July—March ..	138.2	76.6	51.5	37.7	34.6	12.1	350.7	688.4	921.0
—April ..	158.6	87.4	59.5	42.8	39.1	13.1	400.5	846.9	1,105.6
—May ..	180.9	99.8	66.6	48.2	43.7	15.2	454.4	989.0	1,278.0
1956–57—									
July—March ..	150.5	82.4	59.1	42.9	37.8	12.8	385.5	750.0	1,006.6
—April ..	173.0	95.1	67.7	48.5	42.9	14.4	441.6	932.5	1,219.4
—May ..	197.7	109.1	75.7	54.8	48.2	16.0	501.5	1,088.9	1,409.8
EXPENDITURE.									
1936–37	49.2	27.2	16.8	11.6	10.6	3.4	118.8	81.5	190.3
1937–38	53.5	27.6	17.6	12.4	10.8	3.6	125.5	86.0	201.4
1938–39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	94.4	212.8
1950–51	128.3	63.9	44.6	30.8	28.8	8.1	304.5	841.8	1,032.0
1951–52	167.0	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	389.7	1,016.8	1,263.3
1952–53	180.8	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	436.4	1,026.7	1,297.6
1953–54	186.5	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	465.4	966.5	1,261.1
1954–55	195.2	115.5	73.6	50.9	46.6	14.7	496.5	997.3	1,318.2
1955–56	208.9	126.4	77.4	56.8	51.4	17.7	538.6	1,076.7	1,426.2
1956–57 (Estimate) ..	219.8	135.8	84.8	61.8	54.9	20.1	577.2	1,126.4	1,497.0
1954–55—									
July—March ..	140.1	79.4	51.9	36.3	33.4	10.2	351.3	684.2	926.2
—April ..	158.3	89.8	57.9	40.7	37.3	11.7	395.7	782.4	1,046.8
—May ..	177.7	99.5	64.6	45.0	40.5	13.2	440.5	869.0	1,155.9
1955–56—									
July—March ..	149.7	88.1	55.9	41.0	38.1	12.4	385.2	768.1	1,035.2
—April ..	169.4	98.2	62.1	45.8	42.3	14.3	432.1	863.1	1,153.4
—May ..	190.3	110.9	69.9	51.4	46.9	16.1	485.5	968.5	1,288.6
1956–57—									
July—March ..	158.9	95.6	62.2	43.9	42.0	13.8	416.4	798.8	1,086.3
—April ..	179.5	107.3	69.4	49.2	46.5	15.9	467.8	900.5	1,213.6
—May ..	201.2	121.1	77.3	55.4	51.3	17.8	524.1	1,010.4	1,333.9

(*a*) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and special financial assistance, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth. The totals of revenue and expenditure of the States have also been adjusted. (*b*) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, etc., from undertakings outside the Budget. To obtain comparability between States, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits have been excluded from annual figures.

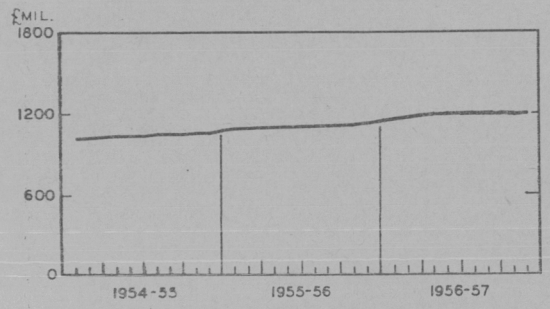
BANK DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



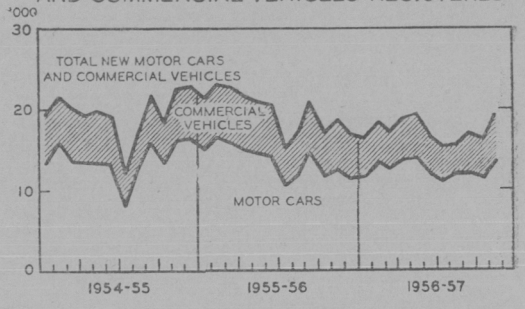
DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



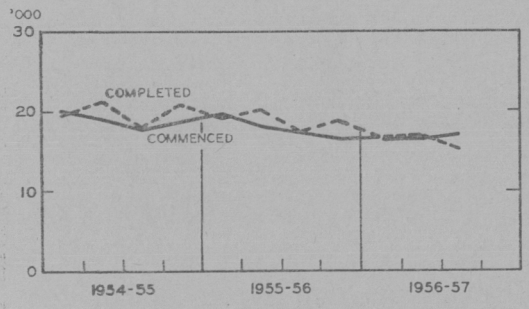
SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS



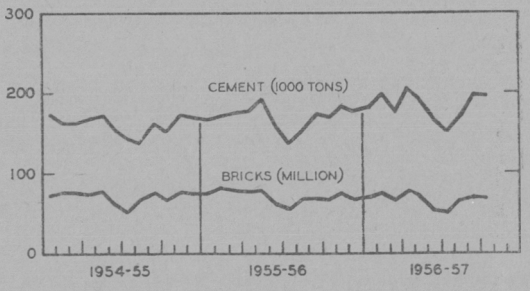
NEW MOTOR CARS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



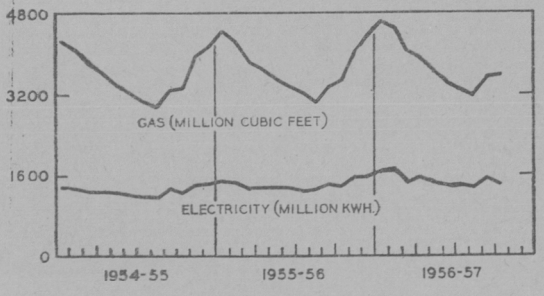
NEW HOUSES



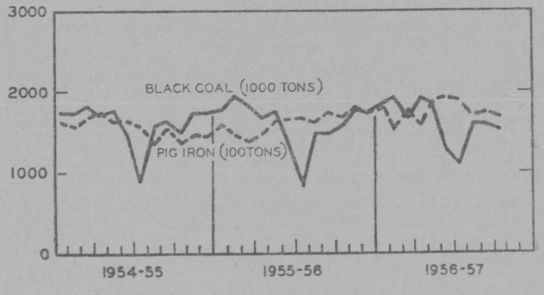
PRODUCTION OF BRICKS AND CEMENT



PRODUCTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY



PRODUCTION OF BLACK COAL AND PIG IRON



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„ 25. Monthly Bulletin : Production Statistics, No. 103 : June, 1957.
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Part II : Degrees, Libraries, Finance.
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„ 27. Building Statistics : No. 37 : March Quarter, 1957.
„ 28. Retail Sales of Goods : March Quarter, 1957.
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July, 1. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : April, 1957.
„ 1. Exports of Wool (Australian Produce) : Eleven months ended May, 1957.
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Vol. III. Queensland—
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„ 15. Part II. : Cross-classifications of the Characteristics of the Population.
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„ 22. Monthly Bulletin : Employment Statistics, No. 186 : May, 1957.
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